

THE

Country

GUIDE



OCTOBER, 1954

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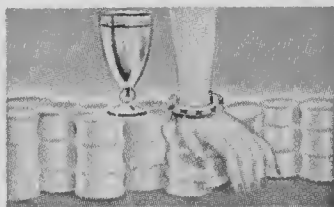
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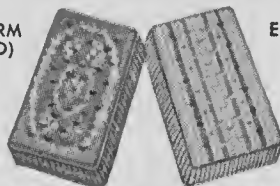
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Photo by Eva Luoma

THE Country GUIDE

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OCTOBER, 1954

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Apples have been eaten, and enjoyed, for many centuries — because people *liked* them and felt that apples were *good* for them. Sound reasoning, too — because today we *know* just how important a place the apple can fill in our everyday diets.

The apple is one of Nature's most perfect "food packages". Inside its crisp, glossy skin . . . locked in its tangy, taste-tempting flesh, are many of those things you *need* every day — *in the form you like best!*

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B.C. Apples are as wholesome and nourishing as they are appetite-appealing. No matter what your age, apples can make a worthwhile contribution to your general well-being . . . help make life seem that much sunnier. Remember, an apple a day is Nature's way — be sure to *eat at least one B.C. Apple each and every day!*

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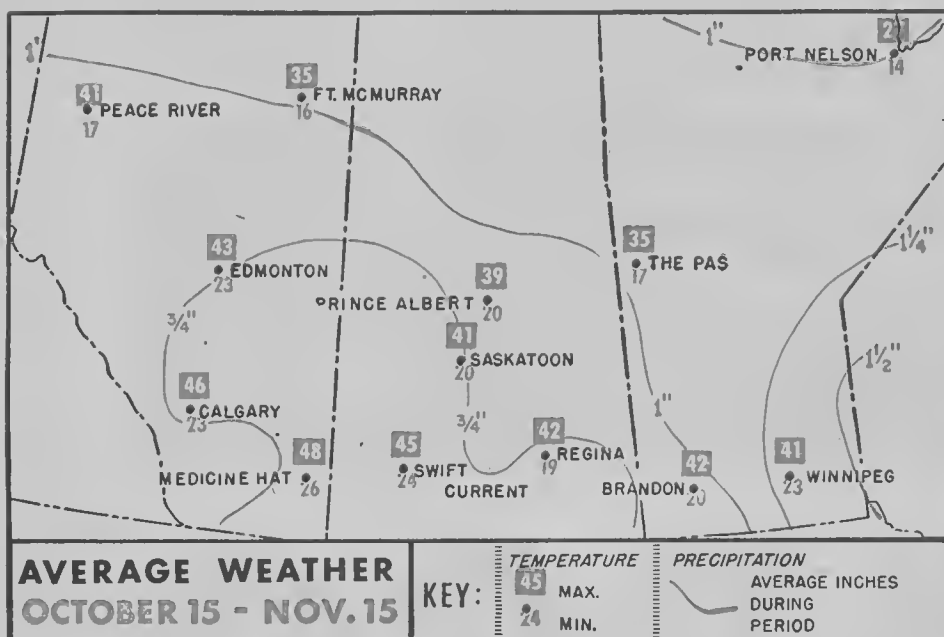


Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff
for

THE *Country*
GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



Alberta

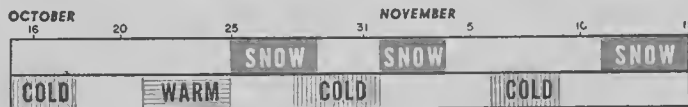
Precipitation totals will be slightly above normal, especially during late October and early November. The snowfall will be less harmful in Alberta than in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, where precipitation this year has been heavy. Snow is likely to impede the threshing of small grains and digging of root crops, specifically potatoes and sugar beets. Pastures and perennial hay crops, however, will benefit materially.

During the second half of October,

generally colder than usual temperatures will be recorded. Look for one period of warmer than usual daytime temperatures during this interval, followed by a return to colder temperature early in the second week of November. Growth of winter wheat and fall-seeded rye will be somewhat retarded. Excellent soil moisture conditions in most sections will promote good root development, reducing the susceptibility to winter-kill.

In retrospect, the weather of last year was much more conducive to proper plant maturity and harvest. V

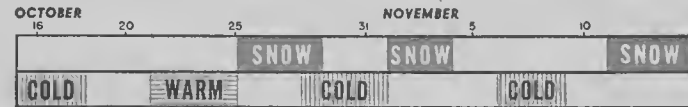
PRECIPITATION
30 DAYS
ahead
TEMPERATURE



Saskatchewan

Wetter than usual weather is in prospect during late October and early November. Moderate to locally heavy snowfall will accompany the three storm intervals shown on the calendar bar. Grain growers will experience difficulty in combining and, in some instances, harvest might have to be delayed until spring. Snow will also hamper potato digging and sacking. The precipitation, on the other hand, will be mostly beneficial to pastures.

PRECIPITATION
30 DAYS
ahead
TEMPERATURE

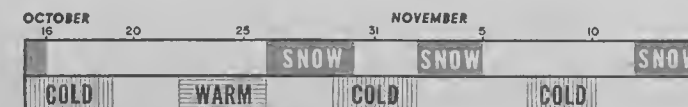


Manitoba

Look for wet weather in Manitoba from mid-October to mid-November. Most of the precipitation will occur as snow, and the amounts will be well above normal. Retarded grain crops, especially in northern districts, will be difficult to harvest, and additional deterioration is expected where snow buries grain in the swath. Snow will also impede the harvest of potatoes and sugar beets.

Temperatures for the period will be near the seasonal normals. Around

PRECIPITATION
30 DAYS
ahead
TEMPERATURE



Helps Heal: "I've used Noxzema for 10 years," says April Spencer-Phillips of Montreal. "It cleared up my blemishes and now keeps my complexion blemish-free."

Dry Skin: "My skin had a tendency to be dry and a little flaky," says Yvonne Brown of Vancouver. "Since I've been using Noxzema dryness and flakiness have disappeared."

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This combination of softening, soothing, refreshing and cleansing ingredients is offered by no other leading beauty cream. *And it's medicated—aids healing—soothes the sting of wind and cold—keeps skin looking fresh and clear!*

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The moment you smooth on Noxzema, you feel a cool, refreshing tingle. It tells you Noxzema's beauty action is starting to work for you.

Hundreds of letters praise Noxzema for dry, rough, flaky skin; for oily skin with a tendency to blemishes; and especially for that dull, lifeless half-clean look of many so-called normal complexions.

1 Cleanse: Apply Noxzema liberally; wring out a cloth in warm water and wash as if using soap. How fresh your skin looks and feels—after this 'cream-washing' not dry, or drawn!

2 Night Cream: Noxzema's protective film of oil and moisture softens, smoothes and freshens your skin while you sleep. (Pat a bit extra over any blemishes—it's medicated to help heal them, fast!)

3 Make-up base: In the morning, 'cream-wash' again; then apply greaseless Noxzema as your long-lasting powder base. It helps protect your skin all day.

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In clinical tests, Noxzema helped 4 out of 5 women have lovelier complexions. Try it for 10 days—if you don't look lovelier—return the jar to Noxzema, Toronto—your money back!

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drive...
compare



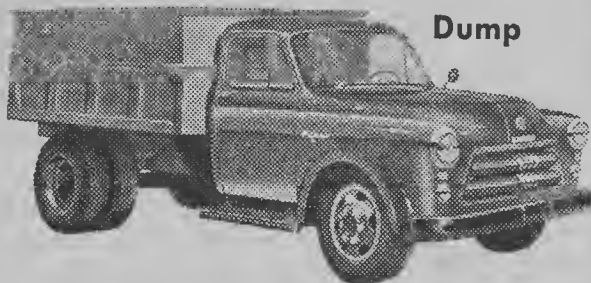
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SEE YOUR CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH-FARGO DEALER

Farm Co-op: No Farmer Need Apply

by H. S. FRY



This modern feed-processing plant and warehouse, with adjacent warehouses (see inset), provide a bulwark for the business of Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd.

THE Maritime Provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island—make up one of the five regions into which geography and language have managed to divide Canada. Newfoundland is also a maritime province, but is sufficiently different from the other three, to be regarded as a sixth distinct region.

Though separated politically, the three older Maritime Provinces have interests which are broadly similar. Agriculturally, there are some marked differences, but these are not decisive enough to offset the similarity of problems to be faced.

It is not surprising, therefore, that in the field of co-operative effort, farmers in the three provinces have found it advantageous to develop a single maritime co-operative. This is Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd., with headquarters at Moncton, New Brunswick. Moncton is strategically located only about 15 miles from Northumberland Strait, across which lies Prince Edward Island; and a little more than 30 miles from the New Brunswick-Nova Scotia boundary. It is also on the direct route west to Montreal, by both rail and air.

Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd. is an excellent illustration of the fact that most co-operatives which eventually become well established and successful, mature slowly. Its real origin goes back to the early years of World War I, when the first co-operative shipments of lambs were made in eastern Nova Scotia, about 1914-15. The first official report of co-operative livestock shipping in New Brunswick was submitted to the Dominion Department of Agriculture in 1919. The volume of shipments in that first year was \$35,000, and co-operative action was believed to have meant a saving of \$2.50 to \$3 per hundredweight, for the producers. This first success soon led to the development of co-operative livestock shipping in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd. serves more than 200 local and re- gional co-operatives

After the war it was considered desirable that farmers themselves should take over the responsibility for livestock marketing in the Maritime Provinces. As a result, an organization known as the Maritime Livestock Marketing Board was incorporated in 1927. Total sales during the first year amounted to \$552,637, but the net surplus to the new organization was only \$180.77.

Two years later began a five-year period of annual deficits, which amounted, in all, to about \$7,000. It was during this period that Prince Edward Island withdrew and established its own livestock marketing system. Also during this period, the organization was renamed and became the Canadian Livestock Co-operative (Maritimes). Notwithstanding the loss of Prince Edward Island livestock, a new sales peak was reached in 1937-38 at \$718,000, from which was derived a surplus of \$7,737. By 1945, sales had reached the much larger total of \$3.5 million, while the net surplus for this year was \$51,378.

BY this time, however, though livestock was still the largest single branch of the business, other activities had developed in response to demand from farmers. Sales in other departments now accounted for about \$1.4 million, or more than one-third of the total business done. As a result, it was decided in 1945 to reorganize the company, as Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd.

Livestock marketing sales continued to increase after reorganization, until the record volume of

\$5,962,000 was reached in 1952. During each of the last two years, total sales have been well above \$10 million, and for the year 1953-54, which ended May 31, the surplus was \$184,359.

M.C.S., as the organization is called for short, is incorporated under the federal Joint Stock Companies Act. It has an authorized share capital of \$500,000, in shares of \$25 each. Since it does not do business directly with individuals, but only with other co-operatives, its annual meeting consists of delegates from local and regional co-operatives. These may send up to five delegates according to the amount of business they are doing with M.C.S. Last year, for example, one local, Co-operative Farm Services Ltd., at Moncton, was responsible for \$1,250,000 of M.C.S. business. Another came close to a million dollars, and two others were over \$500,000. There were 27 member organizations which each contributed \$100,000 worth of business, or more, last year. On the other hand, there were 95 members which each brought M.C.S. less than \$10,000 worth of business last year.

The total amount of share capital invested by such a large number of member organizations—more than 200—has been relatively small. At the end of last year the total of all assets, less depreciation, stood at more than \$1,650,000, and the equity of members in the form of reserves, capital stock and surplus, amounted to \$969,000. Of this amount, however, only \$149,300 was in the form of shares issued to members, or a little less than the total of the fixed assets, less appreciation. A large number of locals had only the minimum single share of stock which they must have to do business with M.C.S., and about two-thirds of all stock issued is in the name of seven large local or regional members.

The board of directors of M.C.S. numbers nine. These are elected by the delegates at the annual meeting; and by general (Please turn to page 45)

The Starting Day

The day Cob Riley finished on the XY Ranch was to have marked a start on his own place, but Fenton's farewell request brought complications and left him in no mood for celebrating

by KERRY WOOD

COB RILEY drove the jeep with vicious speed to reach the log-framed gate marked with the XY brand. He jerked it open, scattering gravel with the back wheels as he spurted off Fenton's land, then got out and firmly closed the portal.

"Ten years!" muttered the tall, sun-tanned cowboy, staring back at the ranch house. It made a pretty sight, the building nestled cosily at the foot of a hill with Manitoba maples providing a leafy screen that hid the barns and corrals from view. White-faced cattle browsed on the high range beyond the house.

"Ten years I worked for 'em," Cob repeated. "And now it's all finished!"

He climbed back into the bucket seat, driving more moderately down the winding trail. He had the habit of men working in lonely places of talking aloud to himself.

"It's all on account of the kid—this Jim Something kid spoiled the set-up. Never even heard of him before today; never knew Fenton had a nephew off in a city orphanage."

When he crossed a ridge and was hidden from the ranch, he braked the car to a stop and sat brooding.

TEN years of hard work. First as a punk who didn't know a cinch ring from a hot iron, then out in the hills as a fence-rider, and the last few years as ranch foreman. I'll admit Fenton treated me good. It's given me a chance to save, and I've made my first payment on my own spread, and I've got some money in the bank for the second, and the jeep to get about in. Not bad! This is my starting day, and I thought—

He thought it would be wonderful. He thought Fenton would shake hands and there'd be a pang about leaving but a good feeling over Cob becoming a fellow rancher. Then he planned a stop at Grassland where Bessie Matthews would help him celebrate his new status before he drove on to his range alongside the Grassy River.

"Yes: the kid ruined the whole set-up," growled Riley, pulling a crumpled letter from a pocket. The man's face, sharply lean and wind-wrinkled around the grey eyes, bent somberly over the boyish scrawl. The letter was addressed to Fenton, care of XY Ranch, Grasslands, Alberta.

"Dear Uncle Ralph:

"I got to leave the Home next Monday, because I'm 15 and they don't keep boys here after that. There's a farm up north they could send me to, but I told the matron, Mrs. Parks, you'd give me a job on the XY. They like us to go to relatives, so she agreed. I reach Grasslands on Tuesday's noon train. I'll work hard, Uncle, to make up for taking me in.

"Sincerely,
"Jim Munn."

Cob read it again, trying to subdue his anger. Fenton didn't want Jim Munn. You couldn't exactly blame the rancher for not opening his doors to a stray maverick at this late date, when



his own two children had grown and departed. A few years back, before Fenton prospered, he might have welcomed the orphan as an extra hand in the way he'd accepted Cob Riley, a greenhorn from a city store who needed country air. Now Fenton had a good crew. He and his wife planned a long holiday with boat trips, plane rides and sightseeing off on the other side of the world.

"Do me a favor?" Fenton had asked, after paying Cob off that morning.

Riley agreed at once, then noticed that the rancher looked flustered as he handed over Jim Munn's letter and waited for Cob to read it.

"Here's a hundred dollars for the boy," Fenton said brusquely. "Buy him a meal and a return ticket, and when you load him on the train, give him the money as a present from me. I've never met him and see no need to meet him now—To be frank, my wife and I don't want to be bothered. Don't tell him that, of course. Just advise him to go to that farm he writes about and live there for a while."

ANGER flared in Cob again. He kept his word, he'd consented to do this final chore. But it caused a clean break, with no pleasant sentiment about leaving the XY. He still seethed over the scene, not noticing the gopher-hunting hawks soaring in the blue sky above, nor hearing the



Bessie came back with three bowls of soup and said: "I've ordered steaks all 'round and apple pie with ice cream for dessert."

Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

meadowlarks whistling from fence posts, or enjoying the yellow blooms of buffalo beans alongside the road.

His edginess increased as he approached town. Cob parked in front of the Regal Cafe where Bessie Matthews worked. Will Starrat, the banker, was having a coffee, a couple of farmers were talking about wheat prospects, but otherwise the cafe was empty. Cob sat on the back stool, managing a lopsided grin for the pleasantly plump young lady who came from the kitchen to welcome him. Bessie wasn't a ravishing beauty, but she looked wholesome and her eyes sparkled in a happy way. On her, the green waitress uniform looked daintily feminine and neat.

"Going to celebrate, Riley?" she asked at once.

"Huh? Ohhh—about leaving the XY."

"I meant the other thing: the start of your own ranch."

Cob morosely shook his head. "No celebration, Bessie. Nothing to celebrate, anymore."

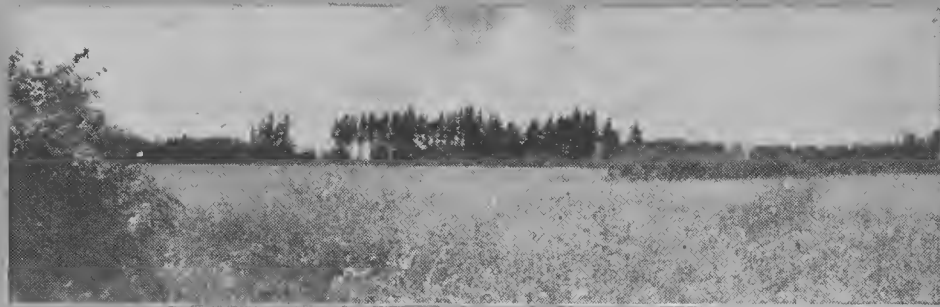
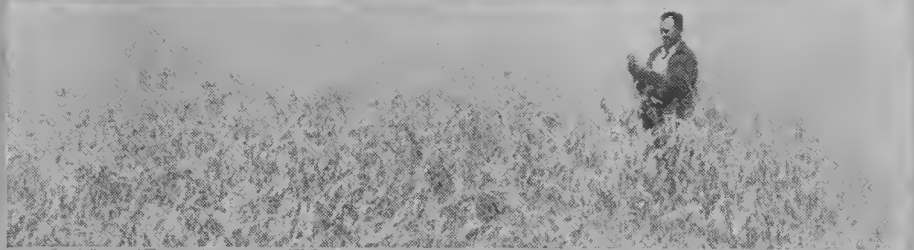
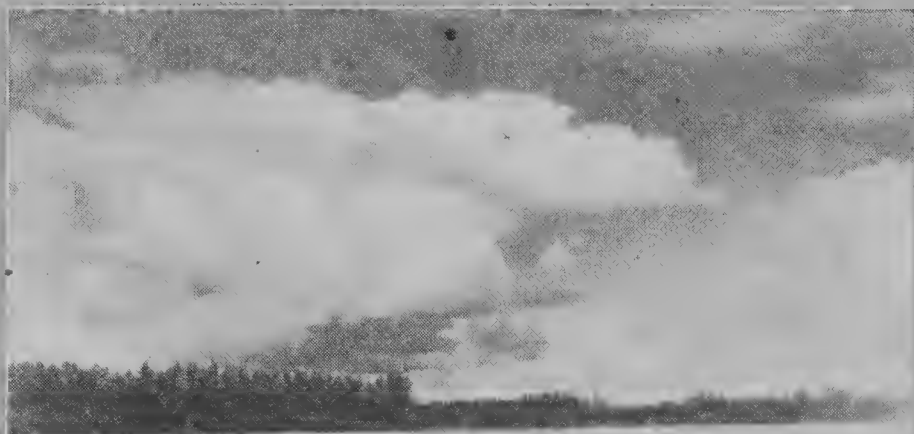
She studied him briefly, then hustled off to serve the two farmers, then came back to ask about his troubles. He handed her the boy's letter. Bessie read it, then smoothed the crumpled sheet carefully as she looked up at Cob.

"He's Fenton's dead sister's boy," Cob explained. "Fenton doesn't want him. This morning, just as we settled my account, the Boss asked me to do a favor. I said I would, without knowing that it was giving this kid the brush-off. Fenton handed me a hundred bucks as a good-bye present for the boy when he's loaded on the train and headed back to the Orphan Home."

Bessie gave a little gasp, then she looked enquiringly at Cob again. (Please turn to page 56)

The Anklovitches learned the secret of building soil fertility, and today . . .

They Make Sand Soils Produce



Top left: Murray Anklovitch in a 10-acre field of Registered Antelope rye, that yielded 40 bushels per acre. Lower left: The farmyard, seen through the orchard. Upper right: The Anklovitch family, left to right, Murray, Helen, Janice, Marlene and Connie. Center, right: Registered Grimm alfalfa, with the fields broken by bushy barriers. Lower right: A one-acre field of Registered Vernal alfalfa between groves of jack pine.

EARLY settlers in the bush country could tell much about a prospective homestead by studying the trees that grew on it. Tamarack and jack pine were suspect. If land was overgrown with tamarack they studied the soil and the possibility of draining it before they filed. If it grew jack pine, they recognized it for what it was—a rocky ridge, or a poor, sandy soil—and they looked for something better.

Murray Anklovitch, Pas Trail, Saskatchewan, filed in 1934 on jack pine-covered land. By then the homesteading days were over, for all practical purposes, and perhaps he could get nothing better. Whatever the reason, the land that grew the jack pine did not seem destined to grow much else. Much of the soil was "pine sand," a yellow, gritty, sandy soil, more suited to run between your fingers, than to support heavy stands of plant growth.

It was 1938 before Murray prepared to make a living from his sandy farm on the south bank of the Saskatchewan River, some 20 miles north and east of Nipawin. He had been fighting forest fires for the Saskatchewan Natural Resources Department since 1932, as well as doing a wide range of timber, saw-mill and forest chores for a series of employers.

These chores, largely in the winter months, included axe and saw work in the lumber camps, driving caterpillar tractors, breaking out roads, piling 24-foot logs to a height of 20 feet for a mile or a mile and a half on the ice on the Carrot and Sipanok Rivers, and even spending one winter as a camp cook.

But in the spring he would be back on forest patrol. In 1935, he was in charge of 40 men in a

by RALPH HEDLIN

two-month battle against a blaze south of Tobin Rapids in the Missipuskiow River area. In 1937, he led 150 men against the Fishing Lake fire north of Nipawin. The crew went in in June, and came out in September.

Forest Ranger Anklovitch—the boss—was the one man that could not leave the burning forest. But he had a girl friend that summer, and though the fire fighting must have sadly upset his courting strategy, it is in the record that in 1938 he and Helen were married.

Helen was from Regina and Murray never considered for a moment asking her to lead the vagabond existence of a forest ranger's wife. He had built a log cabin on the homestead in 1937, and he and his bride moved into it in preparation for cutting a farm out of the bush. Now the fight was against the jack pine that covered hills and valleys instead of fires that consumed the forest.

"That was a rough life, those first few years," Anklovitch remarked recently. By 1941, he had cleared 80 acres with the axe. The additional 320 acres, that he now has cleared on the five quarters he has today, were cleared with scrub cutters and pileers. It was light work compared with the clearing of the original 80 acres.

The jack pine sand was not proving too encouraging, either. Fifteen acres cleared in '36 and seeded to wheat the next year had produced seven bushels per acre. "That was as much as that sand soil seemed capable of producing," said Anklovitch. But in 1938

the same field produced 15,000 pounds of alfalfa seed. Prospects were looking up.

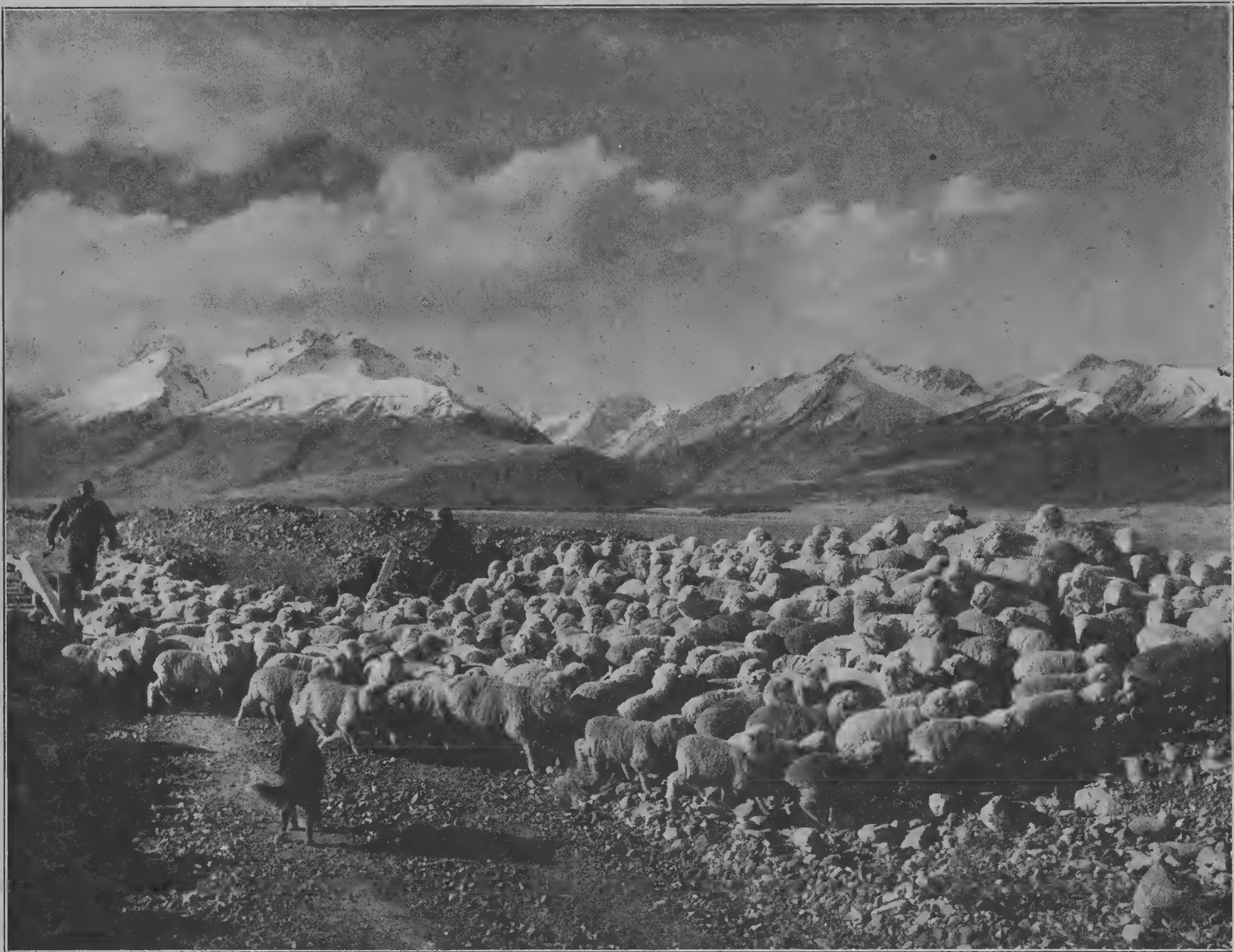
But not for long. The soil lacked fertility reserves. "By 1942, we were in really serious trouble," said Murray Anklovitch. "We felt sick, looking at that 1942 crop," added his wife. "I can still see that scrawny, yellow field of wheat we grew."

"Yes," said Murray. "The fertility was all gone from the soil. We knew we were beat, and that was all there was to it."

Apparent defeat was, nevertheless, turned into victory. Today the same land grows large crops of elite and Registered rye, alfalfa, wheat, oats, barley and flax. The soil that had to exert itself to produce seven bushels of wheat in 1937, has, since that time, produced wheat crops up to 40 bushels per acre, rye 61 bushels, flax 30 bushels, oats 90 bushels, and barley 55 bushels.

WHAT happened? It was very simple. The Anklovitches were taught the correct use of their soil. Sandy loam and sand east of Nipawin is distinctly different from heavy clay around Regina, and requires different treatment. In those first years on the farm they were farming their fields as though they had a rich, fertility-packed, friable soil. As a result they were almost driven out; when they treated the soil for what it was—a fertility starved sand—it made them prosperous.

It began in the desperate year of 1942. Readers will recollect it was an excellent crop year in Saskatchewan. Farm desperation was a scarce commodity that year, but to the Anklovitches it was a year similar to the prairie farm debacle of 1937. (Please turn to page 48)



[K. V. Bigwood photos]

Merino flock at a New Zealand Alpine sheep-station homestead are led over a wooden bridge which bears five-miles-per-hour warning.

Grazing the Skyline

IN building up her status as the world's third greatest wool producer, and top producer and exporter of cross-bred apparel wool, New Zealand has put some kinks in the record. One was the evolution of her own distinct sheep breed—the Corriedale; another is the development of mountain grazing, on snow-grass pastures up to 6,000 feet.

Little more than a century ago, New Zealand had not a single sheep—no animals at all, in fact. Today, in a country less than half the size of France, with a human population of only 2,000,000, her flocks add up to 34,000,000. These give a clip of 390,000,000 pounds, mostly sold abroad to about 30 different countries. In the peak-price year of 1951, wool exports brought New Zealand £128,176,051—more than forty million dollars—plus about one-fifth of that amount from the sale of meat. So sheep-farming is the nation's principal industry.

The first sheep breed introduced to New Zealand was the Merino, via Australia. Although the type has flourished on that wide, dry continent, and Australia now produces about half the world's fine-quality Merino wool, the wetter climate of New Zealand did not suit the breed so well. English Leicesters, Southdowns, Romneys and Lincolns do much better there.

Such breeds have proved ideal on the new "bush-burn" country, where land has been cleared

On the South Island of New Zealand, flocks of Merino sheep graze on the steep sides of the Southern Alps, as high as 6,000 feet

by A. L. KIDSON

of its forest by felling and burning, and left with blackened stumps and logs. Their wool stood up well to the rough conditions. Lincolns and Leicesters were gradually replaced by the Romney, which now comprises about 17 per cent of New Zealand's sheep population.

BY far the most of New Zealand's sheep—fully 70 per cent—are crossbreds of Romney-Lincoln breeding, with Romney blood predominant. Until 1882, when refrigeration first "arrived" in New Zealand, the Merino and its crosses held their own. The only sheep-products of any importance then were wool and a little tallow, got by boiling down the carcasses. In those days you could buy a whole skinned sheep in New Zealand for about two-bits.

Refrigeration quickly changed the story, for mutton and lamb could then be shipped to England, and sold on good markets 12,000 miles away. Sheep-men began breeding for meat, as well as

wool, by crossing the English types with their Merinos. In that way a distinct new breed, the Corriedale, emerged. This dual-purpose animal, a good producer of both meat and wool, has now become established throughout the world. Romneys, Corriedales and cross-breds gradually took the stage, and the pure Merino almost faded out.

In one region, though, it managed to persist, putting a queer kink in the New Zealand wool story, and one, incidentally, in the Merino's own strange saga. On the steep eastern slopes of the Southern Alps, which run like a spine down the middle of the South Island, with snow-covered peaks touching 12,000 feet, the Merino still survives. It is, in fact, about the only animal grazed on some ten million acres there; and the hazards of existence, both for the sheep and their shepherds, are real enough. Blizzards and avalanches, crags and canyons, the sudden landslide, the hurtling boulder—these make high country a hard country for man and beast.

Yet the Merinos do well on it. Their fodder is a rough native tussock, or snow-grass, which they graze systematically. When the sun, in spring, melts the snow and uncovers pastures at the lower levels, the sheep crop there. Then, as the season advances, they follow the snowline to its mid-summer limits, some 6,000 feet up. In the fall they start moving down again, over the way they came, to avoid the winter snows.

Fencing such country is well-nigh impossible, so a good many stragglers escape the musterings. Highly trained dogs round up the scattered mobs, heading off, driving, or leading them down the steep ridges at the command of the shepherd's whistle. The dogs gain an uncanny knowledge of the game, and obviously enjoy it. They obey hand signals; and when out of sight of their master, often act on their own initiative.

At the heads of gorges, temporary pens are rigged up to hold the lambs during the ear-marking required by New Zealand law. Sheep-owners must register their own special brands and code-marks, to guard against rustling. At the same time,

New Zealand consists mainly of two islands. Combined, the two areas are roughly equivalent to the area bounded by the prairie cities of Edmonton, Calgary, Regina and Saskatoon. The two islands cover 66 million acres, of which 20 million acres are cultivated land, but only 2 million acres are in field crops. Only about 275,000 acres are sown to wheat, oats and barley combined.

The country is mountainous, especially the South Island, through the entire length of which run the southern Alps, in which 17 peaks exceed 10,000 feet in height. These mountains exert a strong influence on the economic development of the country and have been responsible for large scale pastoral holdings on the high-level open country.

the lambs are docked, to ensure cleaner wool and lessen the risk of fly-strike, and male lambs are castrated. The high-country flocks include a large percentage of wethers, since these grow heavier fleeces, and are better able to stand up to the tough conditions. Lambs quickly recover from the shock of docking and castrating, and rarely suffer permanent ill-effects.

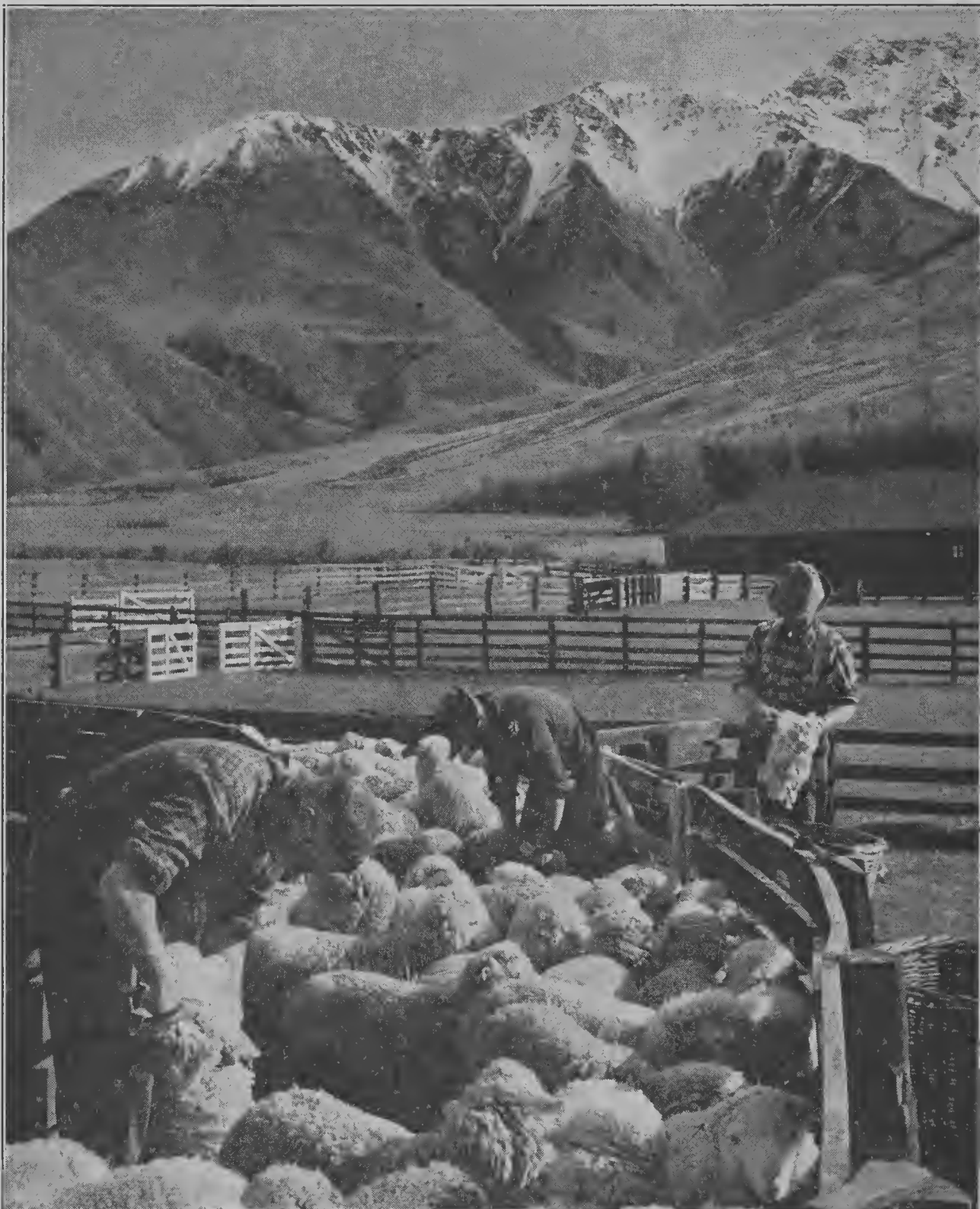
Lambing percentages for most of New Zealand are consistently high, the all-over average being about 100 per cent. But in the mountain country, severe winters cause heavy lamb losses, and the average there is only about 55 to 60 per cent. Some areas are infested with tahr and red deer, which compete with the flocks for fodder, and cause erosion and other damage. A particular menace is the native kea, a parrot-like bird with a vicious curved beak. It perches on the back of young or helpless animals, such as a cast sheep, or a newly shorn one caught in a thicket, and digs down to the fat around the kidneys. In some strange way the bird has acquired a taste for this delicacy, and has to be discouraged—with shot-guns. The beaks are trophied, and the government pays a bounty (approximately one dollar) for each one turned in.

HIGH country sheep populations are sparse—one sheep to every four or five acres, usually—though the better parts carry one sheep to two or three acres. Runs extend up to 200,000 acres—an extraordinary size for New Zealand, where most sheep-farms are quite small affairs, of only a few thousand acres, or a few hundred. The average flock in New Zealand numbers about 1,000 head, but on high-country runs they are usually several times larger.

Good New Zealand lowland will carry six ewes to the acre without hand-feeding, especially in the North Island. There, the climate is generally mild, and flocks can pasture all the year on good English grasses and clovers. These have to be top-dressed regularly with superphosphate fertilizer, for most New Zealand soils are poor in natural phosphorus, and many need liming. Much of the low hill country has been improved in this way, and made to carry more sheep to the acre, especially by the use of aircraft for seed-sowing and manuring. Some improvement to mountain pastures may be possible by such methods; but the rugged terrain and the rigor of the elements will most likely perpetuate this kink in the record of New Zealand wool.



Craggy snow peaks, brown wind-swept foothills, and wide grey shingle river flats, where icy water flows swiftly in the many-veined bed, are typical of the Southern Alps of New Zealand.



Merino sheep on mountain-sides must have wool clipped from eyes, otherwise alpine hazards will cause accidents. Sheep in these pictures were brought down from the slopes especially for eye-clipping.

I'm a Pest Arrester

WITH the advent of the growing season I become the pest exterminator on our farm. I should like to say that I am a great success in this capacity, but if I did say so, it would make me a teller of falsehoods. I may just as well admit straight off that I am a lousy—oh dear, let us use another word here—shall we say I am an ineffective pest arrester?

Take cabbage worms for instance. Some people must know how to cope with these loathsome creatures, for one sees so many cabbage patches. I know cabbage creepers are only a bit of green skin stretched around a bit of jade juice, but they really keep me going around in circles. Perhaps if it were only the worms that eat away at the top of the plant it wouldn't be so bad. What really brings on that feeling of despair are the cutworms, that are chewing off the plant's stems from underground while I am trying to eliminate brother worm in the upper storey. If I give my attention to the worms that are working below, the worms above render the would-be cabbage unfit for anything but worm food. I have recently decided that I might solve this annual enigma by convincing my family that sauerkraut isn't a pleasant thing to have about the house anyway. However, my loving menfolk presented me with the usual bouquet of cabbage plants this spring, and I am once more trying to find a powder that worms do not find palatable. Even as I write this, I can see a fleet of white butterflies dancing gleefully above those cabbage plants. I think I'll trade in my stock of worm-discouragers on a shotgun, and see what I can bag in the way of butterflies.

I have always hoped that the worms that chew away on the radishes and onions might one day die of heartburn, but they have stronger stomachs than most people I know. Someone told me to sift ashes down the rows of these vegetables; but the ashes slow down the growth of the plants, while the worms seem to grow as fat and frisky as ever. I have had even less luck in my efforts to evacuate the ants from the peony beds. I put pepper, ant repellents of all description, as well as a lethal gas down their run-ways. They still run inanely about the place, giving not the least heed to our hints of hostility.

Perhaps the rose beetle is the most unpopular guest that has resisted my efforts to evict it. I've sprayed my rose bushes with every poison on the market, and no matter what color or flavor I use, the bugs don't die as the people in the laboratories say. Those bugs start chewing on the rose buds long before they open, and they go right on chewing until they finish by picking their teeth with the thorns. The only way I can get the better of these bugs is by producing so many buds per bush that the bugs run themselves to death trying to ruin them all before the opening day.

"The trouble with you is that you've never learned to be brutal," my friend tells me. "When dealing with bugs you've got to be brutal." So I got brutal. I grabbed the sprayer that was loaded with a powerful DDT with which I attempt to battle the flies in the cow barns, and I gave that rose bush a good spraying from top to bottom. The bugs didn't die, but they had the courtesy to move over—to another bush. At last my six-foot rose bush that had always brought so many compliments from other gardeners, was free of bugs. It was also quite dead—every last shoot of it!

And I have had a similar experience with the delphiniums. We have some of those giant ones that grow up to the sky and take on some of that heavenly color—if they survive the bugs and slugs, that is. We love these flowers, not only for their own beauty, but because they bring the humming birds to our door. My family expects me to salvage these plants at all cost, but they do not guess what it costs me to salvage them! I keep a whole shelf full of potions for the nasty things that feed on the delphiniums. If I see a leaf wilting, I grab the spray guns and powders, and give them the works. No matter how I try, I never have completely killed



A lone woman, constantly threatened in house and garden by a horde of predators, admits failure and frustration

by INA BRUNS

those pests until this year. This year I sprayed the dandelions with weed-killer, and the back-wash of the spray killed the delphiniums. The bugs just curled up and died from starvation; and I am sure I am the first gardener who has discovered a 100 per cent method of dealing with delphinium eaters. I felt that I should receive some recognition for the discovery, but I have had none from my family. In fact, it is things like this that make me feel I am only a failure.

THE battle with the hawks and owls does not, as a rule, come under my department: but when the men are in the field I am often pressed, by necessity, into any department on a moment's notice. One day I was washing my hair when I heard some hair-raising squawks coming from the chicken yard. I grabbed a broom and raced to the rescue. Sure enough, I had to beat a huge hawk off a hen; and he was so angry at me for spoiling his dinner that he flew to a low-hanging limb and sat there sneering at me. I threw everything I could find at him, but he had no respect for my aim and refused to budge. There was nothing for me to do but to sit there sneering back at him, until the men came in from the field for a dinner that was not even on the stove. I spent the greater part of that afternoon trying to wash the hardened shampoo out of my hair.

"Why didn't you shoot him dead?" my young sons wanted to know. Why indeed! It is hard to explain things like that to a husband who once held high score in a class of sharpshooters, and to sons who are already giving dad close competition on the target range. I can't very well tell them I've forgotten just where a shell goes in a gun, nor can I tell them that guns hurt my ears. At times like that I doubt that I have an aptitude for this job.

I don't think I'd ever make a mark for myself as a trapper either. My brother-in-law, who understands the ways of the wild things that drive me wild, once spent considerable time teaching me all the tricks one must use if one is to trap the pocket-gophers that plow and plunder down the vegetable rows. I learned the methods well enough and I spent half a day planting the trap just the way he had explained. I was feeling pretty smug about getting the thing set without losing a few fingers, and I waited for a full week for my revenge on that beet-eating rascal. One morning I peered down into the darkness and there he was all huddled up in his misery. I felt so ashamed of myself for this dastardly deed, that I promptly let him go and threw the trap away. What if he did eat all the bottoms off the beets and carrots! At least he was gentleman enough to leave the upper half.

BEES are another problem with which I have had to cope. They hang those grey Japanese lanterns all around the place and they needle anyone who happens to pass by. Sometimes I light up a torch the way my husband does, and I march bravely out in the direction of the buzzing balloons. Last summer I was stung four times before I ever reached the nests, so I suppose I've been a failure in that department, too.

Once I did get the better of the bees though. When our fireplace chimney started to smoke in mid-summer, and there was no fire in it, we discovered that a swarm of bees had moved in to keep us company. And such lively company they were, too! We threw water down the chimney, and bee killers, and we lit fires in the fireplace, but the bees buzzed on. Finally, in despair, we went to our druggist, pleaded for something more lethal, and we left home while the bees were lulled off to a permanent snooze. No sooner had we congratulated ourselves on conquering the bees than the bats moved in. (Please turn to page 44)

Illustrated by Lew Saw

Swedish Farmer



Large house and barn on this Swedish farm are characteristic of a land where lumber is plentiful and grows on the farm.

Olof Holmer is a dairy farmer on 114 acres of crop and meadow land, south of Stockholm, Sweden

by PETER HENDRY

THIRTY-FIVE years ago a Swedish lumber king named Otto Holmer came out of the north-land to settle in the rolling clay belt, south of Stockholm. There was still plenty of good timber left, but Mr. Holmer had his eye on another type of investment. In what the family today describe as a "purely speculative" venture, he bought a number of farms in the vicinity of Osmo, about 50 kilometers from Stockholm and only a 15-minute drive from the Baltic.

On a purely short-range basis, it was a very bad investment. Within a decade Mr. Holmer had lost all the farms but one, and the big scale farming venture had collapsed—almost.

But a visit today to Saby, the one remaining farm, is enough to bring reassessment of the proceeds of that rather ambitious gamble made in 1919. Saby is now providing a very comfortable living for a son and grandchildren. Moreover, all the arable acres are being farmed in such a manner that they should continue to provide a comfortable living for a good many generations of Holmers.

Saby has been under the management of Otto Holmer's son, Olof, for the past 20 years. After trying his hand at farming on a tenant basis for a number of years, Olof bought the property outright from his father in 1940.

The younger Holmer is a product of a very excellent farm school system operated throughout Sweden. A year at one of these schools, in 1933-34, provided enough ideas and incentive to keep him experimenting and improving on the home farm ever since.

There were plenty of problems at Saby to tax Olof's ingenuity. The area is far from being the best agricultural land in Sweden. In general appearance it lacks the rich landscape of the fertile plains to the east and south. The soil

is a sticky, cantankerous clay, difficult to work under the best of conditions, almost impossible under extremes of moisture or drought.

The actual farm comprises 315 acres, but nearly two-thirds of it is heavy timber land, with occasional rock outcroppings. Olof has 84 acres under plow, which he is now operating on a six-year rotation, and there are about 30 acres of permanent meadow pasture.

The most interesting aspect of the Holmer rotation system is that it is one year shorter than the general practice on Swedish farms, and thereby has eliminated one year of fallow land. It means that every year, every cultivated acre of the Holmer farm is producing either cash crop or livestock fodder. And yet Olof believes that general yields are being improved.

SINCE the war years, Olof has been starting his rotation off (on hayland breaking) with a Swedish variety of rapeseed. It came as something of a surprise to learn that despite heavy emphasis on dairying, Sweden shows a very large demand for margarine that is reflected in a high price for rapeseed oil. Olof figures that rapeseed is a better cash crop than wheat, if yields are average. Unfortunately, as in Canada, rape tends to be an unreliable yielder.

A small combine is used to harvest the rape crop. If it is standing straight enough it is combined directly, but the Swedish variety, Matador, has a tendency to lodge, and in such cases a swather must be used. Apart from its own cash value, Olof declares that his wheat yields have improved markedly after rape, rather than fallow.

Winter wheat is sown following the rapeseed harvesting. The wheat crop is also combined, usually without swathing. Sweden, surprisingly, pro-



[Author's photos.]
Olof and Mrs. Holmer with their three children, in front of a typically Scandinavian corner fireplace, on which rest trophies won by the purebred Swedish Red cattle.

duces far more than enough wheat for home consumption, and at the present time, despite exports to Germany and Spain, has a considerable surplus.

In July the Holmer farm boasted of one of the nicest stands of wheat imaginable, and Olof was predicting a yield of 3,000 kilograms per hectare. Worked out on Canadian standards it figured something better than 50 bushels per acre. The ten-year average for winter wheat at Saby has been 35 bushels per acre.

In the third year the field is divided into three sections. One grows root crops (potatoes or turnips) for fodder. The other two are sown to peas, and a mixture of oats and peas—all of it for fodder. Oats and barley are sown in the fourth year as a nurse crop for a clover-timothy mixture. In the first year the grass mixture is cut for ensilage in June, and is pastured from August on. The clover and timothy is cut for dry hay in its second year, and the land plowed, to start the rotation again, with rapeseed, the following year.

THE cultivated fields at Saby slope down from the buildings to the edge of a small lake. The higher land behind the farmstead carries a thick stand of timber, which is not being touched for the time being, except for farm needs.

As with other barns throughout Scandinavia, there is only one word to describe the Holmer barn: that is "huge." The Holmer structure measures roughly 120 feet long by 50 feet

wide and contains a bewildering number of floor levels.

There is, of course, a simple explanation of the huge farm buildings in Scandinavia. Regardless of the supply of money, there has always been plenty of timber. Its disposal, in fact, has often been a necessary preliminary to farming operations, and even on establishments much smaller than the Holmer farm, one can find homes and barns that would do credit to any Canadian farm.

The Holmer barn was built in 1940 and possesses some rather unique features, mostly of Olof's engineering. The most intriguing perhaps, is an old-style threshing machine built in on the ground-floor level. Coarse grains on the Saby farm are still harvested in the traditional manner, up to a point. On the field, the stooks are loaded onto a trailer equipped with hay slings. When brought to the barn, the load is hoisted to the loft and dropped into a large open chute that slides the sheaves down to a platform that is level with the threshing machine feeder. The thresher has an elongated bagger which elevates the grain back into a bin on the second floor loft. To follow the course of the grain through, there is another chute in the grain bin which can be opened to feed the hopper of a feed mill on the first floor. Behind the mill, next to the cow stanchions, is the bin for oat and barley chop.

THE silo for green clover and timothy is also enclosed in the barn; and here again, Olof has turned

(Please turn to page 40)



He turned the blade of the knife flat across his palm and began to stoop over the cradle.

Julie

Not many girls, Jim knew, would have left the city and followed him to the end of nowhere. She had done everything but conquer her fear of being left alone. Once a week he had to be away all day and part of a night

by ESTIL DALE

THE pre-dawn darkness pressed close about the little house, but the single room was snug inside. The coal-oil lamp burned steadily on the table, giving out a mellow light. The wood stove contributed a gentle warmth. The smell of bacon and coffee was pleasant. The little battery-run radio, a rare luxury, filled the room with music.

Breakfast was already under way, for this was Jim Terral's day to truck the milk to Idaho Falls. He had already milked his cows and readied the truck for an early start. Time was important. If he got off by daylight he could still not make it back till well after midnight, what with the many things he had to do in town.

But he could not bring himself to hurry. He was feeding his son. When he fed his son he forgot about time. Bobbie had just mastered the fine art of walking. He was a bonnie lad, chubby and strong. He could feed himself, but he was unpredictable. He might obey a sudden impulse to bounce and wave his arms. If he did, he had a magnificent disregard of the gruel that was on his spoon, and of the perishability of china when he turned the spoon into a hammer and began to pound his plate. Besides, he preferred to eat what his father gave him.

His preference for his father was understandable. From daylight to bedtime he was with his mother. He had grown accustomed to her, just as he had grown accustomed to the water bucket on the bench by the door, and to the big unwieldy cradle in which he slept. And he associated her with the words "no, no!" and with certain light taps on the wrist.

But his father left early for the fence-building and was not seen again until noon; he left in the afternoon and was not seen again until dark. He was consequently a novelty, and highly exciting. Also, since there was precious little correcting to do in the few serene hours Jim Terral spent in the house, Bobbie associated his father only with the pleasant.

Jim Terral did not go into such an analysis. He only observed his son's preference and was immensely set up by it. The tenderness did not exclude Julie his wife. It spread over to her for giving him the boy. Julie was pure gold. Not many girls would have left the city and followed him out here to the end of nowhere to make a home out of one room and help him make a go of it with the cattle.

She had done everything but conquer her fear of being left alone, especially at night. She hid this fear from him, but she was scared to death. He

could tell. That was the one drawback in the deal with the Co-op: once a week he had to leave her alone all day and the better part of a night.

He looked at her across the table. She was fully dressed. That was Julie for you. She didn't crawl out of bed to get his breakfast and crawl back in again when he was gone. She was up for the day. She hadn't put on any make-up, but she didn't need it. Her lips were always red; there was always a pinkness just under the skin around her cheek bones. The way she wore her cornsilk hair, falling to her shoulders and curling gently outward, about all she had to do was to run a comb through it.

"You won't be afraid, will you?" he asked.

She smiled and shook her head. The cornsilk hair stirred at the movement. Had he not known better he would have thought that she was without a touch of fear. But he knew better. You found out things when you were isolated out at the edge of the woods three miles from the nearest neighbor and he a Flat-head Indian living alone. You became hard to fool.

He sipped his coffee with a fine air of casualness. This was going to be hard to say without rousing the very terror he wished to minimize, but if he didn't say it she might unwittingly step on the trap. But she couldn't stay in the house *all* the time. If she happened up there, not knowing where the trap was—

He cleared his throat. "I set the bear trap up by that big yellow pine. You know the place. I sifted some pine needles over it. Just thought I would tell you in case you happened up that way."

The pinkness receded from her cheek bones. She adjusted the bib around Bobbie's neck. "I'll remember," she said.

"You know how to do," he went on. This also had to be said. "If you see a bear, just let it alone. It won't bother you."

"I'll remember." She was still working at the bib.

He leaned carelessly back and regarded the overhead beams. There was no ceiling. "The main thing," he said, apparently stifling a yawn, "is to see that Bobbie doesn't get away."

Her cheeks were grey by now, but she smiled. "I won't let him out of my sight!"

"I'd take the two of you along, but someone has to stay here with the stock and things."

"I'll be all right."

THE music from the little radio had been a pleasant background, unnoticed. They both cocked their heads when it stopped and a brisk voice said, "We interrupt this broadcast for an important

announcement. There has been a break from the insane ward of the Belton prison. Three of the escapees have been recaptured and returned. The fourth is still at large. He is Harry Dane, otherwise known as Earless 'Arry, because of the absence of the left ear. The authorities are of the opinion that he might be hitch-hiking toward Lost Trail Pass on the Great Divide. All persons are warned—" There was a buzzing, followed by three sharp whistling sounds. When the waves cleared, the music was on again.

Julie's eyes were wide on her husband. "That's the way you are going, Jim! You go right across Lost Trail—"

He pushed back easily. "But I won't pick up Earless 'Arry. Don't you worry."

"Don't pick up anyone, Jim! He might have his hat pulled down so—"

"I won't."

"You have to stop up there for water, Jim. If you see anyone hanging around—wait a minute! I'll fill the water bag. Then you can stop when you are sure no one is—"

He laughed, shook his head. But she already had the worn canvas bag and was filling it at the bucket by the door. She tied it on the bumper while he revved the engine. Then she stooped for Bobbie and held him up for his final kiss.

She thought of something else. "Jim, if you have a flat or anything, don't let—"

"Forget it," he said, and kissed her. "When we get rich and have a telephone, I can call you back, and let you know that everything is okey-doke."

The old truck rolled off down the trail.

IT was little better than good daylight when she had done everything there was to do in the house. By the time the morning sun topped the eastern peak and flashed gold down the draw where the house stood, she felt as if she had already lived through the equivalent of a full day. Bobbie helped some. She took him outside and allowed him to romp on the pine-scented earth; squatted before him and held out her arms and watched the miracle of his chubby legs as he tottered toward her. She didn't cook anything for herself at lunch time. What was the use, without Jim? What was the use of anything without Jim?

Jim filled the long afternoon. She had been a receptionist in the big Inland Empire Hospital and Clinic when she met him. It was a funny thing, but he came in on the day she had reached a new low in despondency, which just went to prove the old adage that it is always the darkest just before the dawn. What had she been despondent about? She smiled a little now at the recollection, but back then it had seemed frightfully serious.

She had been thinking that the war had taken all the really choice young men away from Beardston. Just the boys were left, (Please turn to page 51)

Illustrated by Gordon Collins

Age of the Homeless

The problem of the world's refugee peoples and the responsibility of the churches for their welfare

by JOHN G. FERRY



These Korean mothers and their children are being assisted under the U.N. Korean Reconstruction Agency. Millions elsewhere are in equally serious plight.

THE Western Zone of Germany has received more refugees from behind the "iron curtain," than there are people in Canada. There are more refugees in South Korea who have come from the Communist zone, than there are people west of Winnipeg. In Korea, in Germany, in the heart of Europe, in India, and in Pakistan, men and women who are destitute, homeless and disillusioned, wander across the earth. Some are in search of lost members of their families from whom war has separated them. Some are in search of religious, or political asylum: all are in need of food, clothing, shelter, and the realization that someone still cares, and that there is still love, charity and dignity in the world.

This is the age of the homeless. It is the age when all of man's proud pretensions have been scarred by war and suffering, and by the denial of the basic dignity of the human personality, all in the very heart of western civilization.

For the forty million refugees throughout the world who walk the path of suffering and despair; for the children seeking parents from whom they have been separated; and for mothers who see their children mutilated and emaciated, the future is punctuated by a large question mark, dotted on the one hand with the atomic bomb, and on the other with the Cross. Upon their rehabilitation and reintegration into the life of the world depends the very future of the Church; indeed, the very future of society itself.

Since farmers, as a group, are on the side of law, order, morality, humanity, and religious faith, and because they have a strong sympathy for the underdog, they will be deeply concerned for the fate of the disinherited of the earth. Because farmers themselves must battle the elements and suffer the hazards of weather and plagues, to say nothing of fluctuating incomes, they, better than most other groups,

can understand what it must mean, when half the people of the world have per capita annual incomes of less than \$100.

Churches have been frequently criticized for their failure to meet the needs of suffering humanity. Too frequently, the criticisms have been justified. Nevertheless, while there is certainly no room for complacency in the realm of the refugee problem and inter-church aid, for the refugee problem is not a temporary, but a permanent problem for our twentieth century, still, the work that the churches are doing through The World Council of Churches and Inter-Church Aid is truly inspiring and encouraging. It is a sign that while churches might be divided on points of doctrine and practice, their unity and co-operation in the face of human suffering is positive, widespread, and sincere.

THIS fact was made abundantly clear at the recent meeting of The World Council of Churches in Evanston, Illinois. The work of the Council with refugees was presented by outstanding world leaders. Here, for example, is Dr. G. J. Van Heuven Goedhart, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: One of the greatest achievements of the Christian churches in recent time, he said, is that "they have started increasingly to translate their faith and their hope into terms of practical programs and projects in the fields in which they bear responsibility." He doubted if there was "any field in which the Christians have achieved so much as they have in the field of the refugee problem."

Dr. Goedhart expressed his greatest admiration for the men and women he has met in the refugee programs of The World Council and of The Lutheran World Federation who "with unflagging courage and belief in what they are doing, fight day by day for the solution of a problem, which is

still with us, and unfortunately will remain with us for many years to come.

"Over the borders which separate freedom from oppression, refugees come every day, walking into the unknown with a poor little bundle on their shoulders. They have been led to believe that the free world will restore their basic rights and their human dignity," he said.

"They come to us with confidence and hope, and the one thing that Christians cannot afford to do is to let them down. Fortunately, so far, they never have, but it is human nature to get tired of a problem as the years go by, and it is therefore indispensable to remind people of good will, time and again, that there is still a task ahead as long as the problem has not been really solved."

Dr. Goedhart voiced the conviction that "if Christians continue to stand ready to help bear the burden of the refugee problem and to accept its continuing challenge it will be possible to solve, in the end, at least most of the problems still remaining."

HERE, too, is Dr. Frederick K. O. Dibelius, Bishop of Berlin. Addressing The World Council, he said that Western Germany is doing what it can to help, but that its means are limited. During the last ten years "Christians in other countries have shown a great deal of Christian love toward the Church in Germany," he said, and believed that "no country in the world has been more conscious of the oikumene (world Christian fellowship) than Germany, because its works have been all around us."

Mr. Myung of the Presbyterian Church in Korea, reported that the Korean people "are tormented not only by physical suffering, but by the fear

of the future. We cannot settle down to recover from our wounds, because there is no final peace in East Asia," he said.

"Our country has been divided on a purely arbitrary basis. The industrial north has been cut off from the agricultural south. Millions of refugees have crowded southwards. Towns and villages lie in ruins, and everywhere there is overcrowding and homelessness. No one feels any security.

"Yet in this situation there is hope," he went on. "The Church in Korea is a reality. Although its history covers only a few generations, it has grown phenomenally, and is growing today." Stressing that "in situations which breed cynicism and despair, Christian hope is triumphant," and that Korean congregations live and multiply despite the fact that "war has destroyed hundreds of our churches and killed hundreds of our pastors," Mr. Myung declared: "We intend to make Korea a Christian country!"

Dr. Edgar Chandler, director of The World Council Refugee Service, told the delegates that "since there are refugees all over the world, we could begin our imaginary trip almost anywhere to see what the churches are doing." They are co-operating to solve the refugee problem in 43 countries.

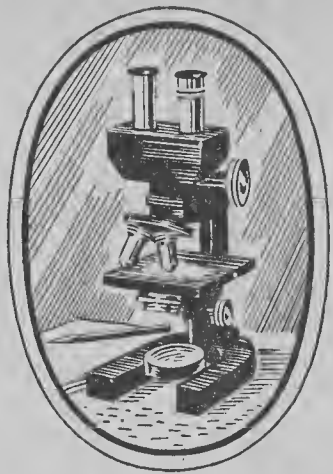
"In Hong Kong," he said, "over a quarter of a million Chinese refugees crowded into paper huts and caves on the hillsides, just manage to stay alive. The churches are trying to help them, too, but our staff in Hong Kong represents the nerve center of an attempt to save over 15,000 European refugees, mostly of Russian origin, caught for a second time in a situation where they must escape or die." They fled from Russia during the Communist Revolution.

(Please turn to page 39)



This is what is meant by the housing shortage in the Republic of Korea, where one out of each four persons lives in a makeshift shelter.

[U.N. photos]



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Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

WHEN Prime Minister St. Laurent made his speech at the Reform Club in Quebec City, those of us who have followed him on election campaigns in the past or heard him in debate in the House of Commons, were struck anew by the varied political styles of this remarkable son of French Canada. He can roar you like any lion, or "roar you as gently as any sucking dove." The word "roar" of course is not to be taken too literally; it applies to what he says and not to the manner of his saying it.

The Reform Club speech was the second part of a one-two punch delivered at Premier Duplessis, the total effect of which, on that tough warrior, remains to be seen. The first part came in the innocent surroundings of the Cunard liner Saxon, berthed at Montreal at the end of its maiden voyage. For many days after this event, political observers in the capital were asking one another why the P.M. should have chosen a hands-across-the-sea gathering—and not technically even on Canadian soil—to make the remarks he did about Canada's rapid development being welcome to all but those behind the iron curtain, and a few politicians in the province of Quebec. As this is written, not even his own colleagues seem to know the answer; he certainly doesn't appear to have consulted them beforehand, and the small charge of dynamite may have been tossed into the speech of welcome on the spur of the moment.

Mr. St. Laurent has a habit of pulling surprises. His first campaign as party leader, in 1949, was full of surprises. The professionals around him were bothered at first by his fondness for giving little wayside chats to children and slyly suggesting to their principal or school board—he of course had no constitutional authority to do it himself, as he carefully pointed out—to give them a holiday. The pros (some of them anyway) thought he might be spending his time to better advantage by making speeches full of political fire and brimstone, and annihilating the enemy. Nor were they so sure it was sound electioneering to roam about the country telling people he had no promises to give them except to continue the sort of government they already had.

This seemingly ingenuous, but essentially crafty, performance paid handsome dividends that summer, and again, except in the West, four years later. But even in the West, nothing happened to improve the fortunes of Mr. St. Laurent's chief opponent.

AT any rate, whether that outburst on board the Saxon was unpremeditated or not, there is no question that the Reform Club sensation was very carefully thought out beforehand. The fact that there was no prepared text makes no difference. In the speech, things were said that obviously could not have been uttered by anyone from outside French Canada. And it is for some of these statements that their author has been most criticized in his own province. Why? Because, as one newspaper claimed, it is mischievous to talk of aspirations to set up an inde-



pendent state on North American soil; no one "authorized" to speak for French-Canadians harbors any such idea.

The difficulty is, that while this is most reassuring to hear, members of the Duplessis government are constantly acting and talking in such a way as to make Mr. St. Laurent's remarks sound far from absurd. They speak of Quebec "sovereignty" in such a way as to invite an interpretation far different from that of the constitutional rights of a Canadian province. They brush aside a Privy Council decision (in the interprovincial and international trucking control case) as of no consequence. They can't be bothered attending a conference called by Premier Campbell of Manitoba to discuss the trucking problem. They refuse to join the other partners of Confederation in tax rental agreements (without interference with genuine provincial autonomy), or in such other projects as the Trans-Canada Highway and a co-operative policy for the preservation and developments of Canada's forests. Their leader himself refers to the Canadian prime minister almost as if both were heads of states with equal powers.

All this is intensely interesting in a capital area, which contains a large French-speaking population. Many of these people in the past have been tolerant of Maurice Duplessis in the provincial field, while warmly attached to "Uncle Louis" in the federal. But such divided loyalties were by no means universal. Now that the unmendable break has come, reactions of the urban French-Canadians of Ottawa and Hull, and of the rural people up the Gatineau Valley and along the north shore of the Ottawa River and through a number of counties in eastern Ontario, may give some clue to the shifts in opinion within Quebec.

Under the circumstances, it isn't strange that this subject should claim most attention around Ottawa. Otherwise, another story might have done even better than it has. Even so, the significance of the railways' declaration of war against the trucks on the Toronto-Montreal run, hasn't been entirely eclipsed even by the political declaration of war by Mr. St. Laurent against Mr. Duplessis.

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Notes from British Columbia

There are over 100,000 dairy cows now being milked in British Columbia. This is a gain of 6,000 milking cows over last year's total. Potential milk producers in the province include 27,000 dairy heifers waiting to freshen, and 86,000 dairy calves. In spite of fluid milk surpluses, it would appear that farmers consider dairying to be one of the most stable lines of agriculture. ✓

The cattle-killing weed, Tansy Ragwort ("Stinking Willie" weed) has been found in the Chilliwack and Abbotsford areas. Seed is wind-borne like that of Canada thistle and dandelion, and agriculturists fear the toxic weed will spread through Valley pastures if not eradicated now. Farmers are urged to dig up and burn the plant wherever it is found. Tansy Ragwort seeded last month and will present a menace to Valley cattle next spring. ✓

In the ranching country of B.C.'s interior, cattlemen are facing a severe crisis. Unseasonably wet weather this fall has just about wiped out their regular sources of hay for winter feeding. The ranchers have two choices, both of them disastrous for the small operator; they can buy winter hay at \$50.00 per ton, or they can sell off the bulk of their cattle—some will be lucky if they can save their breeding stock. Representatives of the B.C. Livestock Producers Co-op. Association (the cattlemen's marketing agency) are touring the ranches to try to keep the selling orderly. ✓

In spite of lower yields, farmers in the southern Interior of B.C. favor red winter wheat in place of white winter varieties because the former is more marketable there. Ridit and Watsach are the red varieties recommended for this area because they yield well and resist lodging. ✓

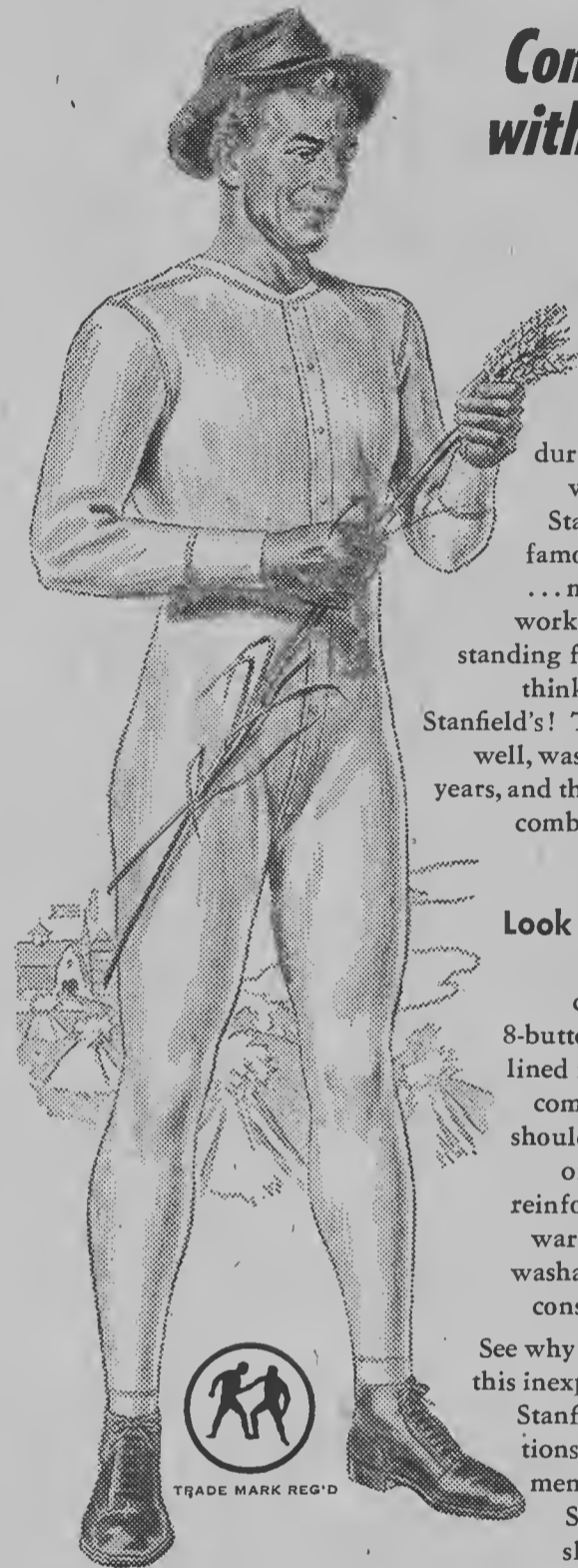
Milk consumption on the Vancouver and Victoria fluid milk markets has shown a steady increase since the B.C. Milk Board's so-called decontrol order. This is in contrast to the period 1947-52, when milk was under full control, and there was a decrease in consumption of 2.5 million quarts—in spite of a substantial increase in the area's population. The gain in sales, however, has not solved the milk surplus problem. One of the main reasons for this is that, since decontrol, there has been a huge increase in milk production. ✓

The B.C. Interior Vegetable Marketing Board has issued a new general order providing for the re-zoning of the Board's defined area of jurisdiction, and reducing the number of selling zones from 15 to six. Roughly, the area now extends from the International Boundary north to Woodpecker, in the Cariboo district. The west boundary includes Hope, on the fringe of the Lower Fraser Valley, and the Pemberton Valley—the eastern limits contain Revelstoke on the C.P.R. mainline, and Fernie in the Crow's Nest Pass area. ✓

Premier W. A. C. Bennett of British Columbia, said recently that if the Social Credit party were in power at Ottawa, it would accept sterling in payment for Canadian wheat. ✓

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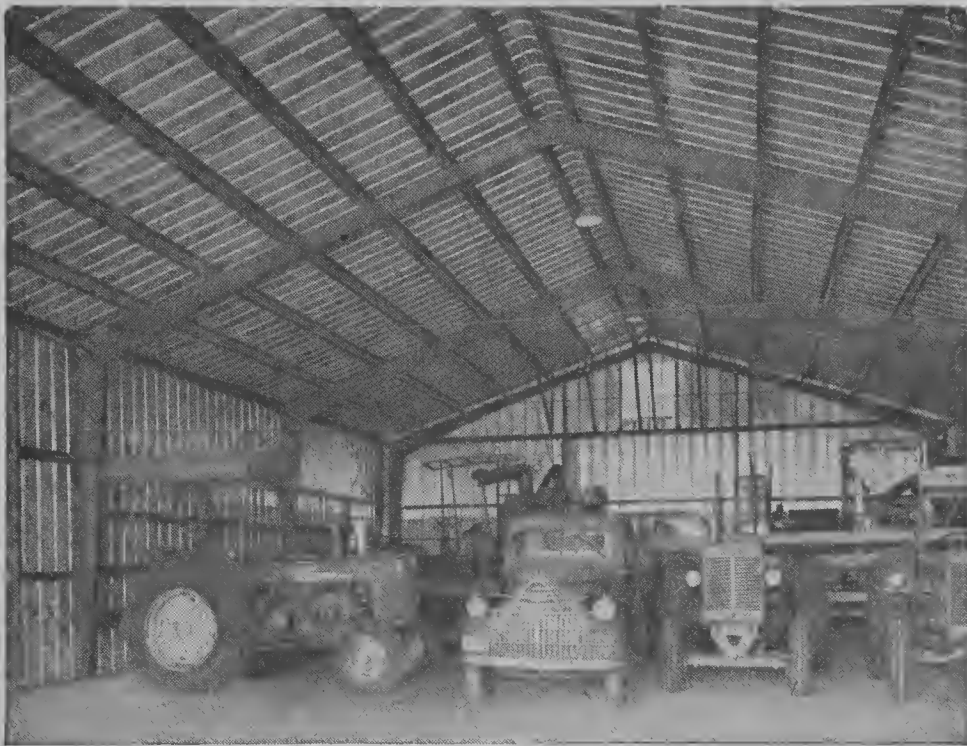
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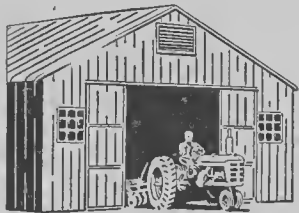
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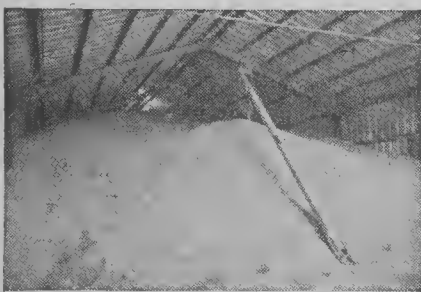
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



New Agricultural Science Building at the University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Insect Raiders Cut Food Supply

THE alfalfa weevil discovered in Utah in 1904, has now appeared in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan—another case of Man's age-long battle with insects for the food we eat. Seventy-five per cent of all living creatures on earth are insects. In the soil alone the number is said to run as high as four million to the acre. It is estimated that ten per cent of all food crops grown is eaten by insects and rodents—enough to feed the entire population of Africa, or North America. Without modern pesticides, many of our foods could not be grown commercially, others would be inferior in quality, scarce, and costly because of lower yields. The most recent chemical weapons are phosphorus compounds which can be sprayed on soils and plants. These are taken up by the sap and spread through the leaves and stems without harm to the plant, but they kill any insect that feeds on it.

Winter Fair Judges Selected

ONE hundred and twenty-six judges will officiate this year at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair to be held at the Coliseum, Toronto, November 12 to 20. Among them will be Lord Irwin, M.F.H., of Newmarket, England, who will judge hunters, and share judging honors in the light horse

improvement division. The Fair is expected to attract record-breaking exhibits, including 1,300 horses, 2,800 cattle, 700 swine, 1,000 sheep, 7,500 poultry and pet stock, and large displays of grain, vegetables, dairy products, fruits and flowers.

Farm Cash Income Drops

CASH income of Canadian farmers (excluding those of Newfoundland) dropped by \$88,729,000 during the first half of 1954, according to a Bureau of Statistics estimate. In that period total income declined to \$1,093,874,000 from \$1,182,603,000 for the same period last year. Biggest single factor in the drop was the wheat situation, which showed a decline of \$110,200,000—from \$242,900,000 in 1953 to \$132,700,000 for the first half of 1954. This was offset in some measure by a rise in total livestock income of \$51,100,000. Nor was the decline general for the whole of Canada. The entire reduction in farm cash income came from Prince Edward Island and the Prairie Provinces, ranging from a six per cent loss for the former to a 36 per cent for the leading wheat producer, Saskatchewan. However, gains registered by the remaining provinces were narrow, ranging from an increase of one per cent for New Brunswick to about nine per cent for Quebec.

Diploma Course For Young Farmers

APPLICATIONS for enrollment in a two-year diploma course in agriculture are now being received by the University of Saskatchewan School of Agriculture. Designed for young men who plan to make farming a career, the course opens October 28 and closes March 24 of each year. Studies include the feeding and management of livestock, modern methods of cereal and forage crop production, poultry husbandry, gardening, bee-keeping, dairying, farm accounting and management efficiency, farm machinery maintenance, business English, public speaking, and community organization. Potential students must be 17 years of age, have completed the eighth grade in public school, and had one full year's farm experience. A



Lord Irwin

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

number of forms of financial assistance are available to those short of funds who wish to take the course. Registration date for the 1954-55 term is October 28. Those requiring further information may obtain it from The Director, School of Agriculture, University of Saskatchewan. V

Maintain Flock Health

RESPIRATORY diseases of poultry received a good deal of attention at the annual convention of the Canadian Hatchery Federation held at Winnipeg, September 23 and 24. It was stressed that poultrymen should not consider disease control an end in itself. The major factor in disease control is still the maintenance of flock health through a strict, round-the-clock adherence to the principles of good housekeeping and sound management, including the purchase of high quality stock and institution of good feeding practices. V

Tribute to A Pioneer

A VERY fitting tribute was paid to the memory of one of western Canada's most outstanding agriculture pioneers, when a national monument was unveiled on the Experimental Station at Beaverlodge, in the Peace River district on September 15. The monument was erected by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in recognition of the outstanding services rendered to the area by the late W. D. Albright, who died in 1946, after 33 years of fruitful work, the influence of which extended far beyond the boundaries of the Peace River district.

The monument was presented to the district on behalf of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board by Professor M. H. Long, of the University of Alberta, and a member of the Board. It was unveiled by R. Gordon Albright, a son of the man who, migrating from Ontario to the Peace River country in 1913, began immediately to explore the agricultural possibilities of the area, and by the vigorous and skilful use of voice and pen, to make them known across the breadth of Canada.

Beginning with a few small plots on his own homestead, W. D. Albright sought and secured aid from the Dominion Department of Agriculture. This was continued in the form of

seeds, plants and ultimately small money grants, until what was at first a private experimental station, became a sub-station of the Dominion Experimental Farm System, and wound up as a fully established experimental station of the Experimental Farms Service. Thus it is that no more fitting location could be found for a monument erected by the Canadian people in memory of the work of W. D. Albright, than on the grounds of the Experimental Station at Beaverlodge. V

British Farming

THE National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, recently called attention to the fact that agriculture is Britain's biggest single industry, currently worth more than £1,200 million per year, or three times the value of all the motor cars, motorcycles, and commercial vehicles produced in Britain in 1953. It is calculated that the postwar agricultural expansion program has meant a saving of at least £400 million per year on the cost of imported food, or almost enough to pay for Britain's imports of cotton to keep Lancashire's mills spinning, rubber to keep the wheels of transport turning, timber to keep the building program going, and tea to keep the nation going. Put in other terms, the extra food saved as much currency as was earned by the export of ships, aircraft, motor cars, commercial vehicles and tractors, and cotton piece goods.

Last year was a good agricultural year in Britain and production of bread grains was up 15.8 per cent; sugar beets, 23.4 per cent; potatoes, 5.2 per cent. Increased production was to a considerable extent due to increased yields.

Britain's food bill is a very large one. In 1952, Britain imported 40 per cent of all the world's export trade in food, 70 per cent of the meat exported, 73 per cent of the butter, 42 per cent of the cheese, and 20 per cent of the wheat.

It is reported that British farms produce all the fresh milk needed, practically all the potatoes and oats, more than four-fifths of the shell eggs and vegetables, about two-thirds of the carcass meat and offal, barley and condensed milk, nearly half of the fruit, dried milk, bacon and ham, and nearly a quarter of the sugar and wheat. V

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Unveiling the cairn and plaque honoring the work of the late W. D. Albright at Beaverlodge Experimental Station, Alberta, September 15, 1954.



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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Butter Stocks Increase

STOCKS of creamery butter on June 1 totalled 52,285,000 pounds in Canada as compared with 37,607,000 pounds a year earlier, stated the Dairy Farmers of Canada. In a recent submission to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Gardiner, they pointed out "that 'The increase in butter stocks built since May, 1951 (32 million pounds) represents 3.3 per cent of the total production during the three-year period,' and that, 'since 1949 until March 1, 1954, the whole of the cost to the Canadian taxpayer has been \$1,462,000, which represents an expenditure of only a fraction of a cent per pound per capita.

The organization feels that a continuation of the 58-cent floor price of butter until at least May, 1956, is advisable, primarily because (a), economic stability in the dairy industry requires a moderate annual expenditure to meet the needs of an increasing population; (b) because the dairy farmer must plan his production well in advance if he is to secure a maximum efficiency; and (c) because a reasonable support price under butter lends a measure of strength to the market for all dairy products. V

Frozen Food Industry Beginning

NEARLY 39 years ago a Massachusetts Yankee on a fur-trapping cruise to Labrador discovered that he enjoyed frozen seal, whale and caribou. Nearly ten years later he devised a machine which reproduced Arctic cold which might be 40 to 50 degrees below zero. His name was Clarence Birdseye. Borrowing on his life insurance, he started a company which was the first of 1,400 companies now in the field which comprises the frozen food industry. It is said that the industry this year will freeze four billion pounds of food and, by 1959, will gross more than \$5 billion. V

Largest Cattle Breeding Organization

THE British Milk Marketing Board operates what is undoubtedly the largest animal breeding organization in the world, through its artificial insemination centers. Altogether, 115,000 farmer members artificially bred 1,020,000 cows, in the year ending March, 1954—representing 44 per cent of all cattle in the serviced areas. V

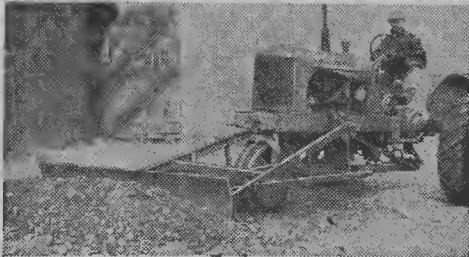
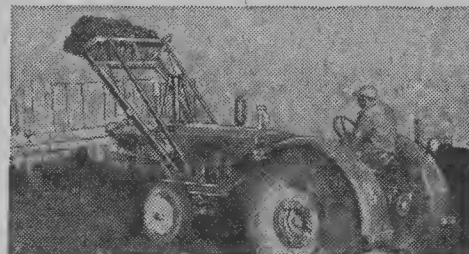
Variable U.S. Wheat Quality

DR. MAX MILNER of Kansas State College, after a visit to Europe and the Middle East, was reported as saying that many European and Middle Eastern countries are reluctant to buy American wheat because it varies so much in quality. Canadian wheat is rated best for baking purposes, Argentine second, and U.S. hard winter wheat third.

Among 13 cargoes of U.S. No. 2 hard red winter wheat received in Israel during a six months' period, protein content varied from 9.2 to 14.4 per cent. V

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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Get It At a Glance

A look at the general agricultural scene for items of interest to Canadian farmers

On the average, a pound of beef in the United States travels about 1,000 miles from the producer to the consumer. ✓

It has been estimated that the annual value of the total production in the United States and Western Europe is five times, more or less, the combined value of production in all underdeveloped countries of the world. ✓

The Department of Agriculture in New South Wales, Australia, has set up an advisory committee in the southern region of the state, whose function it will be to consider ways and means of making the state extension service more effective, and to help bring about a general development of agriculture in the area. The southern region consists of six agronomist districts, each of which has a representative on the committee. Members are appointed by the state Minister of Agriculture and Food Production, who said he was convinced that local control is essential for the proper function of the extension services of the department. ✓

World food production since the war has increased slightly more than world population. Production is about 20 per cent over prewar, according to FAO reports, and about 7 per cent since the end of the war. ✓

Canada will sell more wheat to Britain in the coming year, financial experts predict. British purchases last year were the lowest since 1938, yet more than 63 per cent of British wheat imports were from Canada. Although there was an open market, and a world glut of wheat, British importers chose the more expensive Canadian product because of its high quality—Canada is the only substantial supplier of hard, high-protein spring wheat. ✓

Apple and pear exports from Australia for 1954 included 4,165,643 cases of apples and 1,218,771 cases of pears. Most of the apple crop (3,210,000 cases) came from Tasmania, and the remainder from West Australia. The bulk of the pear crop came from Victoria. The principal market for these was the British Isles and Western Europe. ✓

A compulsory vegetable marketing scheme for Manitoba is favored by 85 per cent of the growers who returned questionnaires sent out by the Vegetable Growers' Association. Eight per cent were undecided, or wanted more information, and only seven per cent were definitely opposed to the scheme. All but three per cent of the replies received expressed strong dissatisfaction with the present marketing system. Acting on the result of this poll, directors of the Association have named a special committee to draft a plan for a compulsory vegetable marketing scheme in the province. ✓

Sale of margarine has been legalized in a number of Canadian provinces, but in most cases the manufacturer

cannot legally color it. Although the sale is illegal in Quebec, you can buy colored margarine in "under the counter" deals, sometimes what you get is a colored, flavored lard. Canadian margarine production for the first seven months of 1954 amounted to 64,298,000 pounds as against 61,681,000 pounds for that period last year. ✓

Canadian wheat and flour exports in the crop year ending July 31 totalled 255,100,000 bushels, a drop of almost 130,000,000 bushels from the previous year. Unsold wheat at that time was 587,487,000 bushels, the highest carryover in 11 years and just 7,000,000 bushels below the record wartime carryover of 594,600,000 bushels in 1943. ✓

Farm prices in Canada and the United States in the years 1952 and 1953 fell by 23 per cent in the former and 17 per cent in the latter, closely followed by wholesale prices. In that period retail prices fell only two per cent. Marketing costs represent from 30 to 70 per cent of the price of food to the consumer. ✓

Prairie rust epidemic losses, plus adverse harvesting conditions could have an unhappy effect on the federal treasury. The market value of our total production of goods and services declined from an all-time high of \$24,300,000,000 in 1953 to \$23,900,000,000 during the first half of 1954. The drop was mainly attributed to smaller farm output. The gross national product is the gauge for measuring prosperity, and is also used by government planners to determine the country's potential tax yield. ✓

The Mayurakshi River project, just north of Calcutta is designed to water 600,000 acres of land and produce an additional 400,000 tons of food each year. This is an example of long-term benefits eastern countries derive from Canada under the Colombo Plan. ✓

In southwestern Queensland, wild pigs are said to be more numerous and more destructive than in any other part of Australia. A bonus of two shillings is paid for each snout and tail produced, and for the two and one-half years ending December 31, bonuses had been paid on 17,490 wild pigs. These wild pigs do great damage by rooting up crops and even killing lambs and calves. One old herd leader destroyed is reported as measuring six feet in length and standing three feet high at the shoulder. He had a pair of razor-edged tusks and weighed 600 pounds. The pigs usually congregate in herds with some old boar as herd leader. ✓

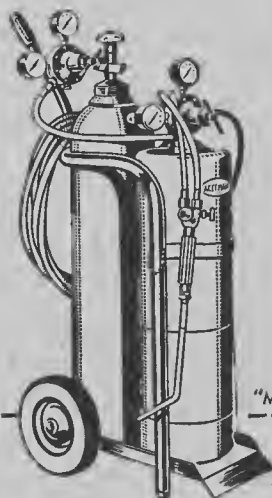
Science has come up with a double-barrelled chemical weapon to defend seeds of crops against both disease and insects. Over the past several years, a new chemical has been under process of development which will be a combination of Lindane, an insecticide, and Arasan, a seed disinfectant. ✓



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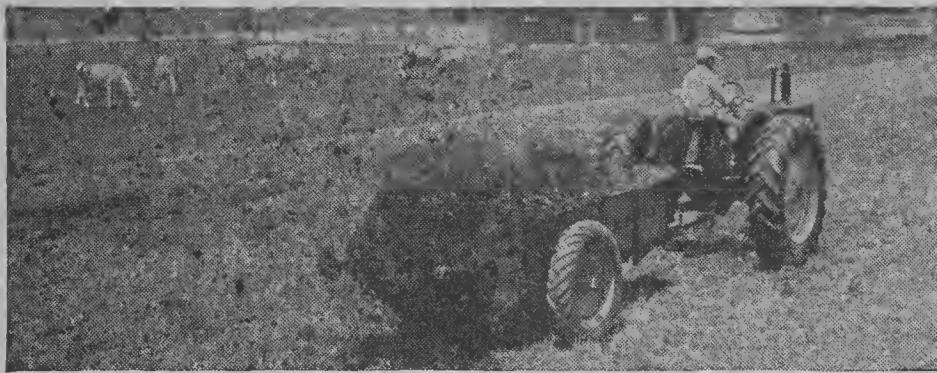
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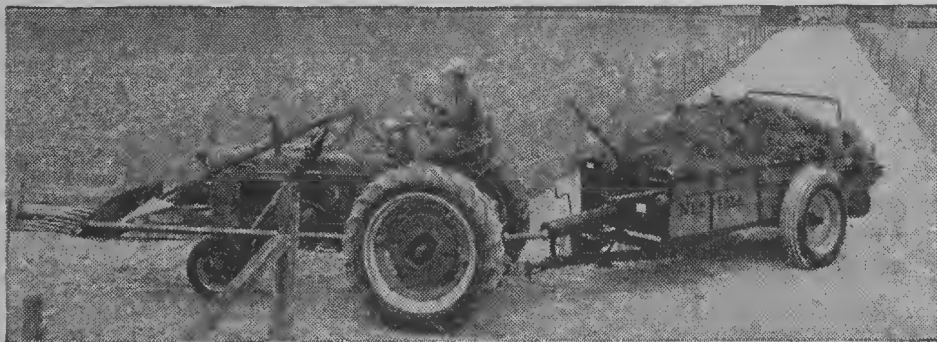
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Self-feeding cuts the labor of raising these pigs.

Turning Pigs To Profits

Owner of a 400-sow pig farm says there is still money to be made at 20 cents a pound

BILL LESYK takes two litters of pigs a year, averaging more than eight pigs each, from nearly 400 sows. He markets over 6,000 hogs in the same period of time, and after doing this for a number of years, says there is no doubt about it, pigs pay well.

With so large a herd, much of the money he makes is bound to be the result of mass-production efficiencies. The well-designed 600-foot-long pig-gery, with mechanical stable cleaner, electric fans to keep the air fresh, and the concrete flooring warmed by steam pipes running through it, provides suitable accommodation. But a sizeable portion of the profits must be credited to the fastidious care taken in the details of good pig management. With so large an investment, big profits can change to big losses in a hurry, if disease or poor feed gives the fast-growing pigs a serious setback.

That's why the operation of Lesyk's Namao hog ranch just north of Edmonton is interesting. The careful attention to detail, the unending search for better methods, is probably the major reason why he can say that even if the price of hogs slid to 20 cents a pound, he could still make money.

He says that disease prevention is one of the most important factors in successful hog-raising, and with the large breeding herd, replacement gilts are always selected from among those born on the farm. He buys good boars, improving the type of the herd that way, but each boar purchased is isolated for fully two months, to see that it is healthy before being exposed to the herd.

The fight to prevent disease begins when the young pigs are two days old. Then, each pig gets its first dose of iron and oil to supply vitamins A and D. Every three days thereafter, until the pigs are five weeks old, the dose is repeated because the pigs are raised inside away from sunshine and unable to root in fresh sod. In damp, cold weather young pigs, two days to a

week old, are vaccinated for hemmorrhagic septicemia, though this is seldom required in the spring or fall. As a precaution against erysipelas in very hot weather, they are vaccinated at a week old and again at two weeks. If a careful watch reveals that the sow's nipples are becoming torn and tender, black teeth will be removed at once.

Feed is important too, and by the time pigs are ten days old, a finely ground, creep-fed mixture is in front of them. In a search for something still better, he is trying out the sugar-pelleted creep feeds, which the pigs will start nibbling at five days old.

By controlling the conditions under which the pigs are raised, he comes close to his goal of making them perform exactly as he wishes. They seldom suffer from diarrhea. The advent of antibiotics during the past few years has chopped two or three weeks off the final market age of hogs, and they now average between six and seven months. With his ranch so close to the grain country, he says he can buy feed at a good price from farmers who want some cash. Finally, since he has been consistently raising pigs, he has established a market with packers and butchers that he can depend on, and which gives him a premium when the hogs are ready to go.

Self-Feeding Silage

THE self-feeding of silage is a means of cutting down the labor of caring for cattle during the winter. A recent experiment by the Animal and Field Husbandry Divisions of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has demonstrated that an appreciable saving of labor is possible.

One lot of 20 steers was given access to grass silage at one end of a horizontal silo 18 feet wide. Feeding was through a movable, stanchion-type feeder gate, suspended from the side walls of the silo by a roller bar.

LIVESTOCK

Another lot of 20 steers was hand fed from the other end of the silo.

When the self-fed cattle were allowed to move the gate forward at will, they pulled down more feed than they would eat during the day, and when exposed to the air and chilled, the silage became unpalatable. To reduce this waste, the silo gate was fastened and moved forward seven or eight inches every second day to permit the cattle to reach fresh silage.

The problem of snow and frost in the open silo was resolved by suspending jute bags over the opening of the gate, and spreading a tarpaulin above the feeding area.

Stormy weather and sub-zero temperatures did not alter the willingness of both groups to feed. The total gain of both was the same, indicating that both methods of feeding had the same effect on gain.

In the latter part of the experiment, when the gate was functioning properly, approximately 75 per cent less labor was required by the self-fed group. Provided wastage is kept to a minimum by the proper adjustment of the gate, it was concluded that surface silos, from which cattle can be self-fed, are a practical and important means of reducing the labor of winter care of cattle. V

Winter Shelter For Beef Cattle

THE requirements of beef cattle for winter shelter are a dry bed and protection from cold winds. Any one of several types of structure will provide enough protection. Which type to use will depend on convenience, overall cost, and cost relative to the length of time a structure will stand.

A shed with frame walls and a straw-covered pole roof, open to the south, has proved satisfactory at the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba. The three walls are single-boarded and set on a concrete foundation. Posts on concrete footings support the roof. The open south side faces a corral where hay and silage are fed. The corral is surrounded by a six-foot board fence, which breaks the wind. Hay feeders are built along the east and west sides of the corral, and a trough for feeding grain or silage is placed along the south fence.

Many variations of this plan are possible. Different herd sizes and management practices might make other plans preferable. A bulletin that discusses the problem has been recently prepared by the Canadian Farm Building Service, and is available from the Experimental Farms. V

Bull Calves

Make Fast Gains

PERFORMANCE testing of beef cattle, which has been under way at the Indian Head Experimental Farm since 1949, indicates that bull calves are capable of producing higher daily gains and more efficient gains than steers and heifers of similar breeding and age. In the tests carried out, Short-horn bull, steer and heifer calves were weaned at six months of age and immediately started on feed. All calves

were individually hand-fed on standard grain and hay mixtures, to a finished weight of 900 pounds for bulls and steers, and somewhat less for heifers.

Average gains for bulls were 2.18 pounds per day compared with 1.90 pounds per day for steers, and 1.62 pounds per day for heifers. Bull calves ate 57 pounds less meal than steers and 90 pounds less than heifers, to gain 100 pounds of weight. V

What about Antibiotics?

“EVERY day people are buying antibiotics to treat conditions which are of such a nature that no known antibiotic can have any beneficial effect.”

This statement, by P. Rothery of the Experimental Station at Melfort, Saskatchewan, gives point to the fact that the use of antibiotics in livestock feeding and for disease control is so new that inevitably there is a great deal we do not know about it. Scientists, like every other group of people, show differences in temperament. Some are enthusiastic, others cautious. The enthusiast is inclined to get himself into print as quickly as possible, to spread the good news, whereas the cautious man contributes equally to the misunderstanding which may follow, by keeping quiet and saying nothing.

Now that the first flush of enthusiasm is waning with regard to antibiotics, the cautious ones are shyly revealing their uncertainties, and at the same time putting on the record, qualifications which they have discovered as to the effectiveness of these so-called “wonder drugs.”

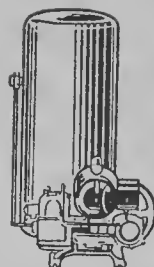
Not long ago, at an international congress in Denmark, a celebrated Danish scientist questioned the exuberance with which the new antibiotics were being accepted and used, because they had been recommended on the strength of what he felt was not a sufficiently sound scientific basis. Further, sufficient attention had not been paid to the physiology of animal health and the possible effect of antibiotics on the normal and necessary processes within the animal body. For example, the B vitamins, being closely associated with a number of enzymes which play an important part in the process of digestion, are an important part of a very involved animal organism. Fundamental research, Professor Mollgaard is reported as saying, is indicating clearly that the microbe population of the food tract is essential for the production and maintenance of the necessary vitamins and enzyme systems. Not nearly enough is known yet of the effect of antibiotics, to know whether in killing certain types of micro-organisms in the intestinal tracts of animals, they may be interfering with the development of essential enzymes and vitamins.

A recent statement by the Canada Department of Agriculture says: “an antibiotic may be defined as a substance which is produced by certain micro-organisms, and which inhibits the growth of certain other micro-organisms.” Despite our limited

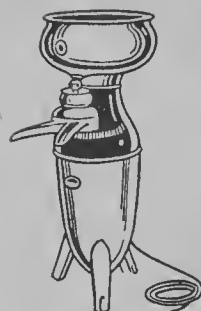
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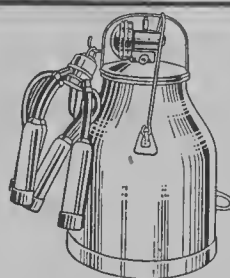
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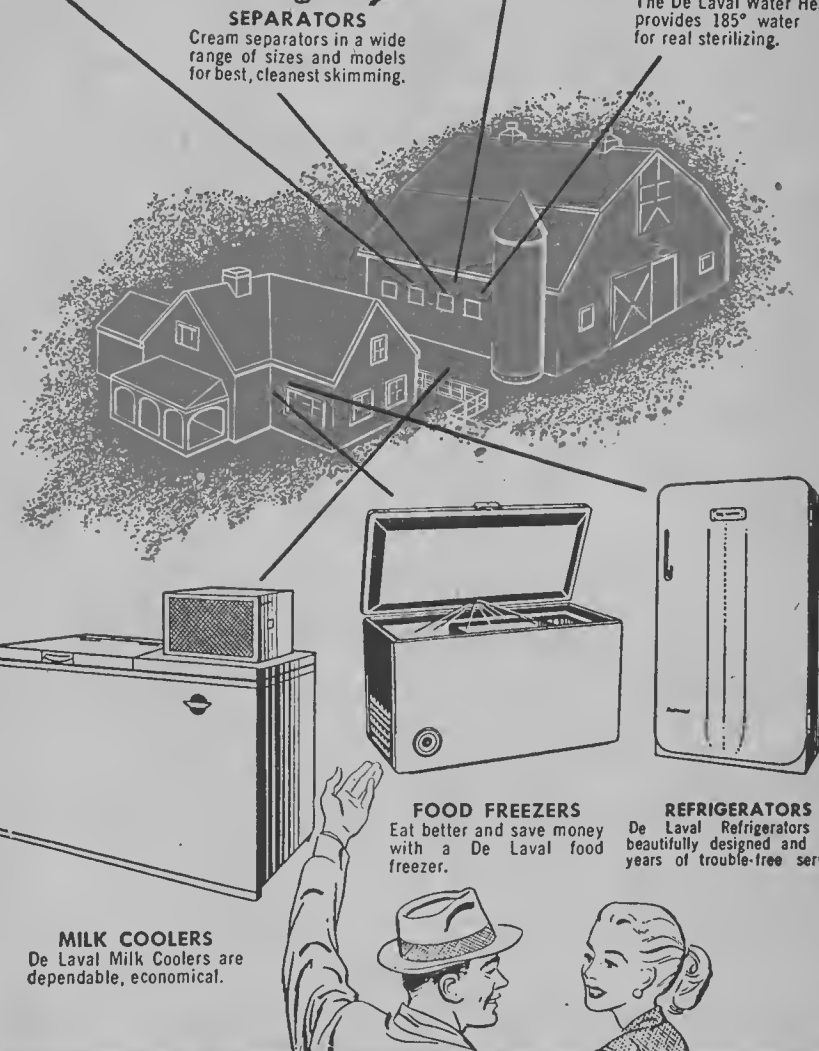
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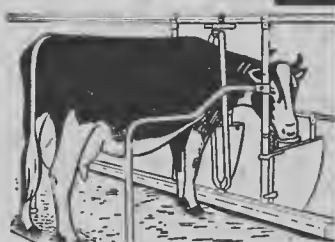
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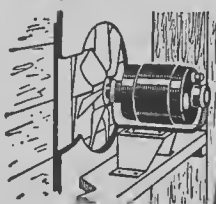
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knowledge of antibiotics, which the definition just quoted seems to suggest, there is no good reason why farmers should not make use of them where such use is justified by apparently sound experimental evidence. Our universities and experimental farms have the responsibility of providing such evidence, and it must be said in support of our Canadian institutions that generally they have not been as enthusiastic as some corresponding institutions in the United States, where enthusiasm is more easily generated. V

Pig Losses Too Heavy

THREE hundred and twenty-seven thousand, or 23 per cent, of the 1,375,000 pigs born in Alberta between December 1, 1953, and June 1, 1954, died before they reached market age. Eighty-two per cent of these deaths are estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as having occurred before weaning age. Calculated at \$10 a pig (weanlings were selling up to \$18 during the period) the loss was over three million dollars.

These losses were not due to some unexplainable and unexpected plague that swept through the feeding or breeding pens in Alberta. Quite the contrary. Diagnostic work in the Alberta Veterinary Laboratory indicates that at least 75 per cent of the baby pig losses could have been avoided by proper feeding and management.

Raising healthy pigs starts with the care of the pregnant sow, says Dr. E. E. Ballantyne, Director of Veterinary Services, Alberta Department of Agriculture. Proteins, minerals and vitamins are essential, and feeding green alfalfa, or an ounce of cod liver oil, or feeding-oil, daily during pregnancy and nursing will result in more uniform litters. The little pigs should not be neglected either; they should be given reduced iron or an iron preparation on the 3rd, 10th and 17th day, and, at the same time, a few drops of concentrated cod liver oil.

Oat hulls in the creep, or at weaning time, are the main cause of enteritis, a scour-causing sickness of small pigs. The safest procedure is to feed oat groats.

Pigs can stand a lot of cold, but cold and dampness frequently lead to pneumonia and death. Pigs of all ages require a dry bed; heat lamps help to provide this essential condition for little pigs.

Dr. Ballantyne advises owners to contact a veterinarian when pigs are sickly. He also suggests that the district agriculturist (agricultural representative) or veterinarian should be contacted for proper rations for pregnant sows, creep-feeding, and weaned pigs. V

Frozen Wheat As Stock Feed

LATE fields of wheat caught by the frost can be used profitably as feed for livestock. Contrary to the view frequently expressed, frozen wheat is relatively high in total digestible nutri-

ents, and is quite palatable to all classes of livestock.

Wheat that has an extremely low bushel weight may not be satisfactory as the only grain fed to cattle. It is somewhat laxative, as well as not having as high feeding value as sound, or slightly frozen wheat. The Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, points out that because it is somewhat laxative, it actually makes an excellent concentrate for range cattle or sheep, where winter supplemental feeding is practised.

Frozen wheat that weighs over 40 pounds per bushel is a concentrated feed, and should be fed by weight rather than measure. A pound of such wheat is roughly equal to a pound of barley.

For steers on full feed, it is safest to limit the amount of wheat to 85 per cent of the grain ration, and for pigs, 75 per cent. The balance of the grain ration can be made up of oats or similar light feed. In the finishing stages—150 pounds and up for hogs—the wheat portion should be limited to 50 per cent or less to prevent overfinishing. V

Breed for Beef Efficiency

WORK at a Texas Experiment Station has demonstrated again that beef sires that are good doers may transmit this same ability to their offspring. The top third of a group of 341 bulls gained 2.8 pounds per day, taking 8.05 pounds of feed for every pound of gain. This compared with an average gain of 2.1 pounds among the lower third, which required 9.13 pounds of feed per pound of gain.

To discover whether the bulls would transmit this ability to their progeny, bulls from the high group, and ones from the low group were mated to a uniform selection of beef cows. Records were kept on the calves.

Calves sired by a bull from the high group weighed 50 pounds more at weaning, than those sired by bulls from the low group; and at the end of a 140-day feeding trial the heavier weaners had increased their weight advantage to 102 pounds. V

Now They Are X-raying Hogs

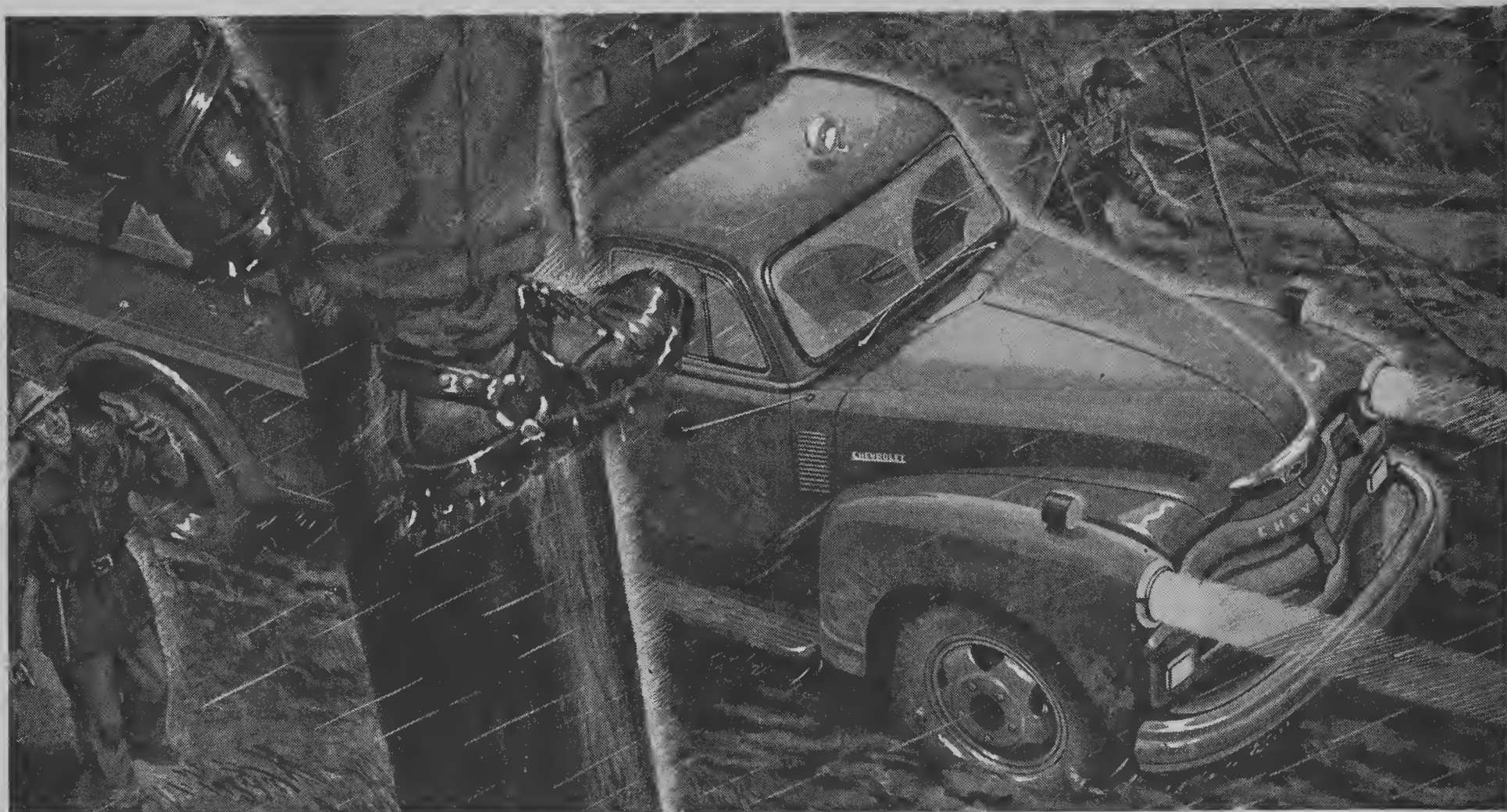
EXPERIMENTAL workers have always regretted the fact they have to slaughter a hog to determine what kind of a carcass it will produce. Parts of litters have to be killed, and this delays the establishment of improved lines. Also, some of the best pigs may be slaughtered.

Research men at Lacombe are working on a system of hog carcass appraisal that would not interfere with the continued existence of the animal concerned. They are attempting to determine how the meat is laid on the bones by taking X-ray photographs. Dr. H. T. Fredeen, animal geneticist, points out that the project is very new, and it is impossible to say whether X-raying will finally prove to be the answer. In the meantime the work at Lacombe will be watched with interest. V

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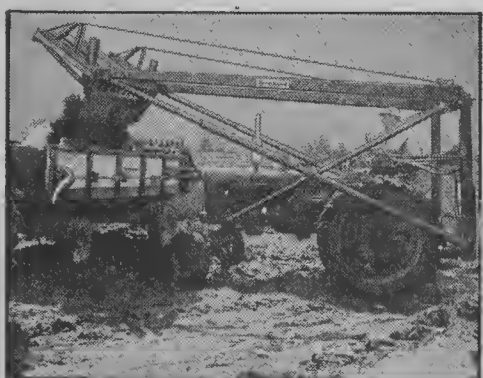
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FIELD

[Guide Photo]
Jim Baker, right, principal of Eaton High School, and Allan Baker, district farmer, examine the knottor on a new baler belonging to their brother, Ralph Baker, Flaxcombe, Sask., on the tractor. Although here doing custom work on M. L. MacRae's green feed, Ralph bought the baler largely with the idea of baling ripe oats for threshing, to do away with cutting and stooking.

Dormancy in Crop Seed

S EED that refuses to germinate immediately after harvest may still be viable. Early tests of brome seed may give very slow germination. Creeping red fescue may germinate poorly even in November; and timothy and other grasses,—even alfalfa,—may give incomplete germination, while flax and small grains frequently give disappointing results.

The reason for this is that most of our common farm seeds are at least partially dormant until after they have had a period of after-ripening. Most of them are strongly dormant at the time they reach maturity on the plant, and require exposure to warm, dry conditions to allow them to dry, shrink, and after-ripen. As they after-ripen they increase in germinability and in speed of germination.

Weather affects this process. It is slowed by cool weather and usually stops in damp or cold weather.

Late grain or grass seeds that are cut on the green side may carry strong dormancy until the following seed-time, or even later. This is partly because seed cannot after-ripen in low, late fall temperatures, and partly because immature seed is more deeply dormant than mature.

A Canada Department of Agriculture seed analyst points out that seed-testing laboratories may obtain complete germination by testing at lower temperatures than required when seed is after-ripened. If this fails, seed may be retested after it has been allowed to after-ripen for a week or more in a warm, dry building.

Farmers testing damp, late or weathered grain should after-ripen it in a warm, dry environment, to determine its true germinability. ✓

Barley Yields Well On Summerfallow

DURING the last few years many farmers have sown late crops of barley on summerfallow fields, in an effort to control wild oats. Whether they have been successful in cutting

back the wild oats or not, many have been surprised at the way the barley grew on good summerfallow fields.

In the area served by the Scott Experimental Station, in northwestern Saskatchewan, 22 tests designed to determine the relative yielding ability of wheat, oats and barley on summerfallow, have been studied for the 12 years between 1942 and 1953. In seven of the ten cereal zones in the northwest, barley was top yielder in pounds per acre; oats was top yielder in two, and wheat in only one. Wheat was the lowest yielder in all zones but one; oats was lowest in two, and barley was top or second yielder in all zones.

A. G. Kusch, senior cerealist at Scott, concluded that on the basis of the 12 years' work, coarse grains will give more pounds production per acre than wheat over a period of time, but that wheat tends to perform better in drier years.

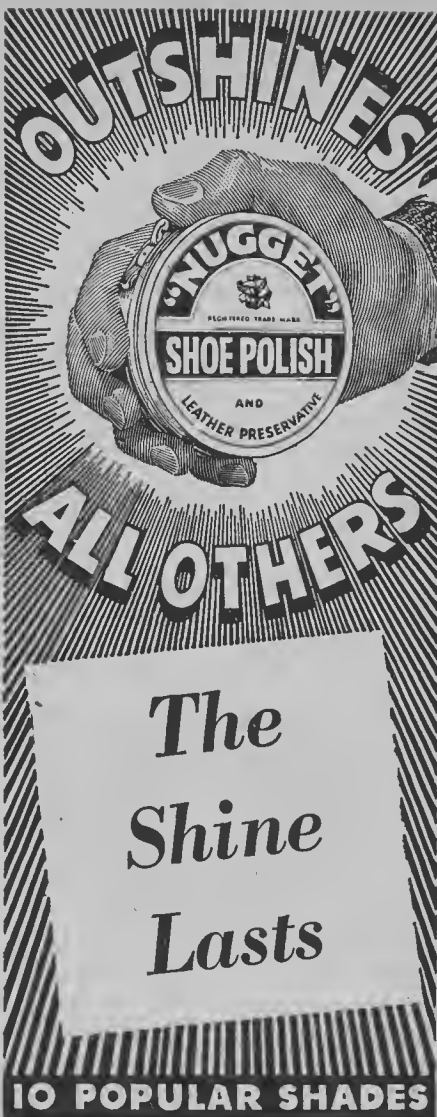
The 12-year average for the ten cereal zones for wheat was 1,661 pounds per acre, 1,926 for oats and 2,013 for barley. On a percentage basis, with wheat at 100, oats produced 115 per cent and barley 121 per cent. ✓

Municipal Plants Clean Grain Clean

THE ten municipal seed-cleaning plants in operation in Alberta cleaned over 2,000,000 bushels of grain in the 1953-54 season, according to F. F. Parkinson, Supervisor of Special Projects, Alberta Department of Agriculture. With the new seed-cleaning season approaching, plants are being checked over and the necessary repair work completed in readiness for the 1954-55 season.

This fall five more seed-cleaning plants, located at Willingdon, Myram, Paradise Valley, Loughheed and Stony Plain, are expected to be in operation. Several more districts plan to build in 1955.

Three reasons are cited for the demand for municipal seed-cleaning plants: Farmers patronizing the plants are planting cleaner grain than they have ever sown; the plants clean the



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FIELD

grain cheaply; they are financially sound, paying operating and overhead expenses, and building up a reserve fund against unprofitable seasons, as well as paying patronage dividends and interest on shares.

"Clean seed is a good investment, and farmers in all areas might well consider the construction of a seed-cleaning plant," said Mr. Parkinson. ✓

Barley Breeding Progress Report

IN recent years, disease resistance has been given additional stress in barley breeding programs, relative to yield, straw strength, and resistance to shattering. This applies at the Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba, according to D. R. Metcalfe, agronomist.

In its search for disease-resistant barleys of satisfactory straw strength and yield, the program at Brandon has been expanded. The work, which involves plant breeders, plant pathologists and chemists, is closely linked with work at the Cereal Breeding Laboratory, Winnipeg.

The early stages of the program involved establishment of hybrid lines resistant to the common races of loose smut. By a process of artificial inoculation and selection, they have been established to some extent. Several resistant varieties are being tested for yielding ability.

In addition to breeding resistance to loose smut, inoculation and selection for resistance to false loose smut, covered smut and stem rust has been part of the breeding program.

Attempts to gain root rot and leaf blotch resistance have been attended with some success. The new variety, Vantmore, recently developed at Brandon, has proved superior in these respects. Several other recently developed hybrids have also shown superiority and are being combined with the newly developed smut and rust-free lines.

When acceptable varieties possessing the desirable resistance and agronomic qualities have been developed and established, the ultimate goal will be the development of new malting varieties. These hybrids will be combined with superior malting types that are presently being developed as a parallel phase of the barley improvement program. ✓

Mounted Equipment and Tractor Performance

MOUNTED tillage equipment for one and two-plow tractors offers advantages of maneuverability, finer control and visibility for accurate work, as compared with the drawn type. Also, the cost of equipment is lower.

Tillage forces developed by mounted equipment may, however, alter loading on the rear and front wheels. If there is too little loading of the rear wheels, increased slippage will result, while if the weight on the front wheels is decreased, steering and balance may be impaired.

The type and weight of the tillage implement, and the condition of cutting edges and soil, will govern the

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FIELD

amount and direction of these tillage forces. Implements with good suction increase the downward loading of the tractor, while those which require weight for penetration are likely to have the opposite effect. Whether an implement draws down, or requires weight to force it down, is often determined by the soil and the sharpness of the cutting edges. These forces will not be altered by the type of hitch, but will be altered by the setting of the implement.

The Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, advises that to avoid the increased slippage usually associated with attached implements, weights should be added to the tractor rear wheels and to the implement. Cutting edges should be kept sharp, and if the front end of the tractor is too light, weights should be added. ✓

Watch Grain On New Concrete

IF it has been necessary to store grain on a new concrete floor this year, it will be wise to watch it closely for heating. Concrete that appears dry can give off enough moisture to heat grain that is in contact with it.

If possible, it is best to wait 30 days after a floor has been laid before putting grain on it, advises A. H. Schulz, North Dakota Agricultural College extension service engineer. If this is not possible, the floor should be covered with reinforced building paper. ✓

Still Time To Seed Grass

THE time for late fall seeding of forage crops has not yet passed. Crops planted in the fall, designed to lie unsprouted in the field until the next spring, should not be planted before October 15, and can be put in any time after this date, until the soil freezes.

Experiments conducted by the Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, have demonstrated that, on the average, late fall seeding is more successful in the drier parts of the prairie provinces, than spring or early August plantings.

A few points should be borne in mind. The seed-bed should be firm, and the seed put down no more than an inch. Late fall seeding should be limited to stubble or weed-covered land, and not attempted on summer-fallow. Finally, the rate of seeding will vary with the crop seeded, due to different sizes of seeds, but a good rule of thumb is to seed about 30 seeds per foot of drill row. In dry areas the rows should be spaced a foot apart. ✓

Dangerous Farm Road Entrances

WESTERN CANADA is well supplied with farm lead-ins that are a trap for the unwary at the point where they leave the farm and enter highways or market roads. There is hardly a district in which, at one time or another, there hasn't been an accident at one of these danger spots.

The same situation prevails in the United States. Blind or poorly constructed drives are responsible for many of the motor vehicle accidents in the U.S., a kind of accident that is responsible for over a third of all the farm accidents in the country.

The North Dakota extension service says that farm driveways should be planned to remove the hazards. They suggest that you should stop your car on the driveway, with the front bumper at least 10 feet from the road, and pace off 700 feet along the road in both directions. Place markers at these points on the side of the road nearest the car, then go back and sit behind the wheel of the car. If you can see the markers, the view of the road is adequate for traffic not exceeding 60 miles an hour. If they can't be seen, remove the obstructions or brush that limit your vision.

If you drive heavy trucks or tractors onto the road the markers should be visible at no less than 800 feet, to insure safe entrance into the road.

Even with these precautions, slow and careful entrance from driveways onto the main roads is a wise precaution. ✓

You Can Control Wild Oats

by L. H. SHEBESKI

Fall Tillage

LATE fall tillage plays an important part in the cultural control of wild oats. Seeds that have fallen to the ground this fall should be covered with a layer of soil. Any time between the present and freeze-up is satisfactory.

The choice of implements is not important, as long as the job is well done. The moldboard plow does the best job, but in many areas is unsatisfactory for other reasons. A one-way disk or a disker is quite satisfactory. An ordinary disk harrow will do, though, if it is used, the field should be double-disked. Working should be to a depth of about three inches.

If soil erosion is not a problem, going over the field with a rotary harrow will work the soil down, and leave it close to the seed. Although not essential, this helps to ensure a good sprout in the spring.

These operations can be done any time between now and freeze-up. If there is alternate freezing and thawing of the covered seed all the better; and the sooner the operations are completed the better will be the prospect of a good spring sprout of wild oats.

(Wild oats control is becoming an increasingly important problem. For this reason, The Country Guide has invited Professor L. H. Shebeski, head of the Plant Science Department of the University of Manitoba, to provide our readers with timely suggestions, from time to time, for the control of this costly weed. Each article will be short and practicable; and the suggestions offered will be sufficiently timely to permit of immediate use.—ed.) ✓

HORTICULTURE



It is often most practical on prairie farms to locate the fruit garden next to the shelterbelt and the vegetables farther out with more exposure.

Antibiotics For Fire Blight

RECENT word from the University of Wisconsin suggests that streptomycin, an antibiotic that has been successfully used in cases of human disease, may perhaps provide a control for fire blight, a serious disease of apple and pear trees. Research workers in Wisconsin are not yet ready to make specific recommendations, but they hope it may be practicable next spring to control bad infections in apple trees.

On one variety of apple three applications of streptomycin, sprayed during blossom time on badly infected trees, gave better control than any spray material used to date.

Fire blight is caused by a kind of bacteria which winters over in cankers on the branches. These cankers produce a sticky ooze of bacteria in the spring which is spread by insects and splashed around by rains. When bees spread it to the flower the bacteria multiply quickly and cause the flower to die. From there the infection spreads down the stem till sometimes large branches or entire trees are killed.

Up to the present time pruning has been the most satisfactory control method. This year, according to P. D. McCalla, supervisor of horticulture, Alberta Department of Agriculture, fire blight has been serious in crab-apple and apple trees in several parts of Alberta, largely because of the cloudy, humid weather and the driving rains. Mr. McCalla suggests pruning this fall by cutting out the hold-over cankers and making sure that the cut is made several inches below any evidence of canker. Burn the cuttings at once and repeat the pruning in the spring to catch any lesions that may have been missed.

"When trimming," says Mr. McCalla, "disinfect pruning equipment frequently in a strong formalin solution and paint cut surfaces with Bordeaux paint or creosote, or thin coal tar mixed with creosote to the consistency of thick paint."

Ripening Tomatoes

DID you know that tomatoes which are ripened at temperatures which stay continually above 86 degrees F., will become orange-ripe, but will not

become red-ripe and will therefore not make really good tomatoes for the table?

A New York experiment station reports that tomatoes that are ripened between 80 degrees F. temperature in the daytime and 65 degrees F. at night, reach the highest quality. All of them develop a good red color and require nine days from the turning stage to red-ripe maturity.

Another point is that if tomatoes receive the direct rays of the sun they will take in more heat, than if there is plenty of healthy foliage to shade them. In other words, they could be as much as 18 degrees hotter than the tomatoes shaded by leaves. This means, in turn, that if there is plenty of nitrogen and potash in the soil, the plants will produce many more vigorous leaves, and will therefore produce a larger crop of high quality fruit.

Chlorosis Turns Leaves Yellow

IN a great many places across the prairies, the leaves of shrubs or fruit trees will turn a pale green or sickly yellow. Because the green color of leaves is due to a green pigment called chlorophyll, it follows that the lack of green color means the lack of this substance. Since it is the chlorophyll which absorbs the light and energy from the sun and enables the plant to form sugars, the lack of it constitutes a very serious problem.

A. Hutchinson, at the Morden Experimental Station, suggests that the ultimate cure for chlorosis in fruit trees may be the development of chlorosis-resistant fruit varieties.

Mr. Hutchinson says that the commonest cause of chlorosis appears to be iron deficiency. "The high lime content of prairie soils," he says, "makes them too alkaline for the plant to obtain the iron, hence the term, 'lime-induced chlorosis'." When iron is deficient in the plant, the leaves show yellow with a fine network of green veins. Sometimes even this small amount of green may disappear.

Here are four suggestions from Mr. Hutchinson with which to combat chlorosis: (1) Choose a well-drained, well-aerated soil rich in humus. (2) Avoid heavy spring applications of barnyard manure. (3) Avoid excessive cultivation over a long period of years. (4) Where only a few trees are involved, dig in three to four inches of

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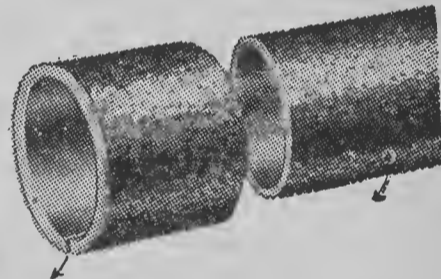
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HORTICULTURE

sphagnum peat into the soil under each tree. When planting the tree, fill the holes around the roots with a half-and-half mixture of peat and soil. ✓

Watering House Plants

THERE is no routine system to be followed in the watering of house or window plants. Any experienced gardener will agree that the process of correct watering is not easily explained.

To water carefully means to avoid overwatering, as much as to water enough. Special attention must be paid to plants which have been recently potted; those that have for some reason or another lost much of their foliage; or those that have been cut back or pruned. Some plants, such as begonias and gloxinias, will die if kept too wet when well started into growth. Too much water for seedlings may mean loss by the damping-off disease, and too little water may be equally fatal.

It is well to remember that plant roots need air, so that saturating the soil for too long a period is harmful. Plants need more water in summer than in winter, and more in sunny locations, than when shaded. Also, they can take more when they are well established and growing freely, than before this happens.

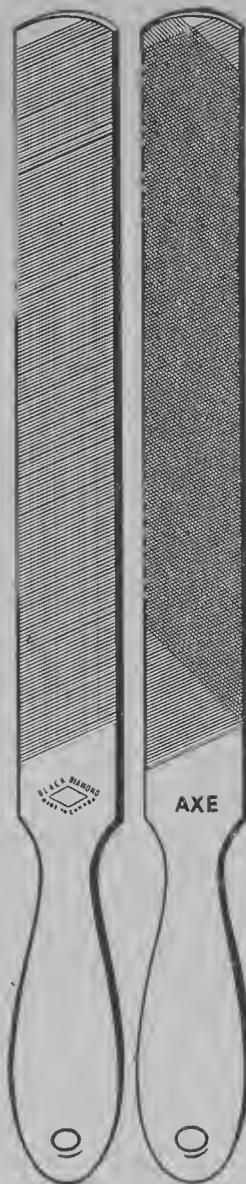
Watering all of the plants at the same time and with the same frequency is not necessarily good watering. Some may need water much more frequently than others. One test for well-established plants in clay pots is to thump the side of the pot with the second joint of the index finger. A wet pot makes a dull sound and a dry one a resounding bell-like sound. Water should be applied at the intermediate stage, which may take a little experience to recognize.

Plants may wilt, either from being too dry or too wet, or from sudden exposure to sunlight. When the flow of water to the leaves begins to fail, the leaves will look dull, but will not be limp. Be sure to keep all saucers and plant containers emptied of water regularly. ✓

Fruit Blossoms And Fruit Set

AN experiment this year, at the experimental station at Saanichton, with the pollination of Bartlett pear blossoms gives an interesting example of the percentage of bloom which must set fruits to produce a satisfactory commercial crop. This percentage might be expected to vary somewhat with different kinds of fruit, and of course any figures are necessarily based on trees which bear a normal crop of flowers.

At Saanichton, when hand pollination was done with commercial pollen, a 7.5 per cent set was secured. The weather was very satisfactory and the hand pollination was carried out on May 6, 8, and 10. Normal open pollination, under the same conditions, produced a set of 5.9 per cent. Saanichton officials say that studies of fruit pollination have indicated that a 4 per cent set will produce a satisfactory commercial yield where there has been a normal full blossoming. ✓



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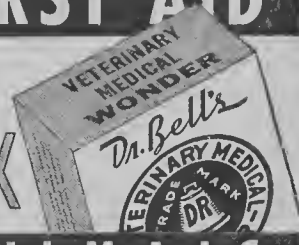
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POULTRY



Properly finished turkeys bring top market value.

Profits from Excess Feed Grain

MANY prairie farmers will be able to use the current plentiful supply of low-value feed grains to advantage this fall, by building up the farm poultry flock.

Before pullets are housed in the fall, winter laying quarters should be thoroughly cleaned. Droppings, litter, and other material should be removed, and walls, floors, and fixtures scrubbed with a hot lye solution of one tablespoon of lye to 20 gallons of water. This should be followed by a reliable disinfectant, such as lye, in a two or three per cent solution, or one of the coal tar products, mixed according to manufacturer's directions.

Pullets starting to lay in the fall should be placed in winter quarters and fed a laying ration before egg production reaches 10 per cent. The changeover from a growing to a laying ration should be gradual over a ten-day period. During the move to the laying house, birds should be handled carefully, and with as little excitement as possible.

Outbreaks of colds may occur following the transfer, but the best way to prevent this is to avoid overcrowding and provide ample ventilation without draft. If culling is done when 10 to 20 per cent of the pullets have started to lay, one can detect and remove those that are slow in reaching maturity. Pullets that are undersize, or poor in flesh, should be culled at this time. ✓

Poultry Disease Control Program

THE following ten-point program of poultry disease control has been suggested by a New York State farm veterinarian: (1) Follow an approved manure disposal plan. (2) Dispose of dead birds promptly. (3) Control rodents. (4) Vaccinate and inoculate your flock at timely intervals. (5)

Keep poultry on good litter. (6) Raise replacements away from adult flocks. (7) Clean and disinfect regularly. (8) Guard against infections carried by visitors, used crates, feed bags, and egg cases. (9) Cull and de-populate when needed. (10) Diagnose diseases promptly and correctly. ✓

Balanced Feeding Gives Quality Finish

BALANCED feeding of proteins, minerals, and vitamins is the key to a properly finished turkey. Young turkeys require 18-20 per cent protein when first put on the range, and a straight grain ration supplies only 12 per cent. The amount needed decreases as the birds mature, and the ration of whole grain may then be increased. Scientifically balanced commercial turkey feeds will supply the minerals and vitamins needed. Generally speaking, the balancing of feed supplements is too complex to be attempted on the farm.

The following feeding schedule has been recommended by the Alberta Department of Agriculture to produce a properly finished bird: From 0-6 weeks of age feed 24-28 per cent protein (poult starter); from 6-22 weeks, feed 20 per cent turkey grower, plus wheat, barley, and oats; from 22 weeks to market, feed 14 per cent turkey grower, plus wheat and barley. ✓

Keep Poultry Equipment Simple

PIECES of equipment built into a poultry house should be simple, few in number, adequate in size, removable for cleaning, and located so that their care will require a minimum of labor, says W. J. Rae, head of the Poultry Department, University of Saskatchewan.

Roosts should allow at least eight inches of room for each hen and be spaced at least 12 inches apart. Since

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POULTRY

droppings pits are gradually replacing the droppings board and roosting platform, all roosts should be screened below with heavy two-inch mesh wire netting, and the droppings which accumulate on the floor cleaned out every three to four weeks. Generous use of lime and occasional spraying with fly repellent is necessary with this type of equipment.

For dry mash feeders, one foot of feeder space is required for every five hens. This can be mounted on a platform two feet high, and the hopper itself built with a wire spring or reel to prevent the birds roosting on them. A V-shaped trough, made from 1" x 6" lumber and set on the ground, can be used for grain feeding. If green, or well-cured alfalfa hay is fed to the birds, a wire rack to hold it is most convenient.

Any dish or container that will not require frequent filling, but which can be cleaned easily, and will permit several birds to drink at one time, can be satisfactory for watering. To keep the water clean, the equipment should be high enough so that litter will not be scratched into it, and so located that the birds will not contaminate it with their droppings.

Much of this equipment can be built at home by the poultryman, and easily followed plans are shown in the 1954 Poultry Annual which is available from the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture.

New Methods Reduce Production Costs

CHANGES in poultry plant management in recent years have reduced the labor needed to care for a given number of birds and have increased production efficiency.

The use of deep litter and droppings pits, which need cleaning out about once a year, has replaced shallow litter and droppings boards that required frequent cleaning. Another great labor saver has been the automatic drinking fountain. These newer devices tend to encourage the use of larger pens, which in turn, reduce the labor required per bird. Laying pens that house 400 to 500 birds give excellent results.

In planning new poultry houses, or remodelling old ones, the feed storage room should be located as close to the birds as possible. In multiple-storey buildings, feed should be stored on the level where it is to be used, or stored in elevated bins, from which it can be drawn through chutes as required.

Cut Grass Often

LONG grass is unsuitable for poultry of any age, but to let poultry out of their houses right into long grass is asking for trouble. It will come in the form of summer colds. There is another reason too, for keeping grass short: it leaves an uncomfortable home for coccidia. If the ground is given a good harrowing, and the grass cut often, the air and sun will more easily get down to the earth, and losses from coccidiosis will be lightened.

TREAT ROOSTS

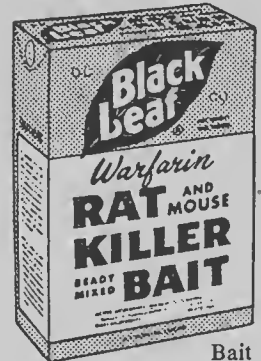
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MITES



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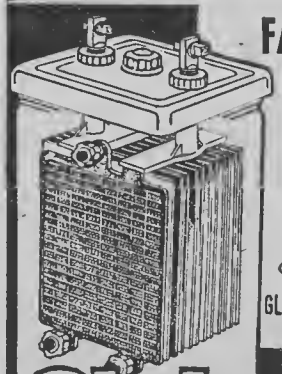
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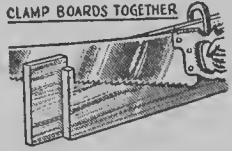
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WORKSHOP

Ideas for the Late Fall

The approach of winter marks the season when workshop chores can be started

Narrow Strip Cutting. An easy way of cutting a narrow strip off a board is shown. Place a piece of scrap lumber behind the piece to be sawed and clamp them together with a C-clamp or in a vise. This gives a smooth cut.—A.B., Sask. ✓



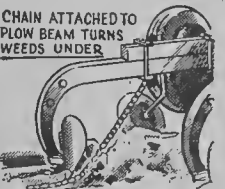
Flashlight Holder. To make a stationary light I pounded the upper edge of an ordinary pound coffee tin straight and cut out notches to hold my flashlight. The handle shown is snug enough to the tin so that it will act as a bail and hold the light at any angle; or it can be used as a handle for hanging it.—C.I.J. ✓



Pencil Holder. If you can never find a pencil in the workshop, get a discarded car distributor cap and use it as a pencil holder. If you turn it over, it makes a satisfactory ash tray.—G.J.C., Alta. ✓



Plowing Trash Under. For burying tall weeds I fasten a chain, long enough to reach 10 inches into the furrow to the right, to each beam where the coulter clevis is fastened. The soil falls on the end of the chain and holds it tight enough to draw down tall weeds. If the chains go under the bottoms when turning they will usually slide back into the furrow when the bottoms are dropped.—I.S. ✓

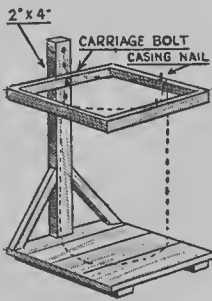


Frozen Accelerator Pedal. A frozen accelerator pedal can be easily freed by applying a small amount of wood alcohol (methyl hydrate) to the frozen part. It is a good idea to carry a small bottle of this substance in the car in cold weather.—O.T., Man. ✓

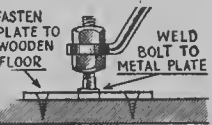
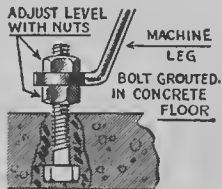
Rake Tooth Bow Saw. To make a bow saw I heated the loop in a rake tooth and pounded it into an oblong to fit the hand. I heated and flattened each end of the tooth and drilled holes to fit small stove bolts. I heated the ends of a 24-inch saw blade slightly, drilled similar holes and with short couplings of strap iron fastened the two to make the saw. I had sprung the rake tooth so that I had to pull it in three inches to give tension.—E.I.S. ✓



Mechanical Sack Holder. To hold sacks open, when filling them, I fastened a 4-foot 2 x 4 to a 2-foot-square base and fastened a wooden frame made out of 2 x 2 to the 2 x 4, as shown. This frame is held to the upright with a carriage bolt fastened with a large wing-nut. In use, I adjust the frame to the height of the sacks being filled and slip the sack opening over the four projecting casing nails.—H.E.F. ✓



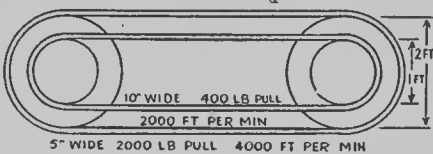
Levelling Machines. It is often difficult to get a stationary machine level and keep it that way. A simple method on a concrete floor is to break a sloping hole into the concrete and lead (or grout) in a machine bolt. An extension from the leg of the machine being levelled can be attached to the bolt with two nuts, and the height altered until the machine is level. If you are levelling a machine on a wooden floor, weld the bolt to a metal plate to increase the bearing area, as shown in the illustration.—O.T., Man. ✓



Emergency Fuses. If all of us kept extra fuses, as we should, we would never need an "emergency" fuse, but many, like myself, are caught short. I have made do by breaking the glass off a burned-out bulb, twisting the wires together, and using this for fusing. With a very heavy current this will burn out and, at least is safer than putting a coin in the fuse socket. Replace it as soon as you get a proper fuse. In the meantime hang a red rag over the projecting ends, as they will be "hot."—W.F.S. ✓



Transmission Costs. The belt pull on bearings is dependent on the diameter of the pulleys. The illustration shows a pulley one foot in diameter which will require a 10-inch



belt at a speed of 2,000 feet per minute. The belt pull on the bearings is 400 pounds. If a two-foot pulley is substituted a five-inch belt will do the same work. The belt speed is now 4,000 feet per minute, and the belt pull on the bearings is down to 200 pounds. The larger pulley reduces belt-ing costs, and bearing friction is reduced to a minimum.—W.F.S. ✓

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The granary is waterproof, fireproof, windproof and is so light and easy to erect it can be put up in a day anywhere by a couple of handymen. Made from heavy gauge, embossed aluminum, the Alrol Granary is rigid and strong. Careful tests prove this granary strong enough to support twice the weight of wheat.

It is recommended that the granary be erected on wooden flooring laid over 4" x 4" skids so that it can be hitched to tractor or team and towed from one location to another.



Chute loading through trap door on top.



Bag loading or emptying through door at side.

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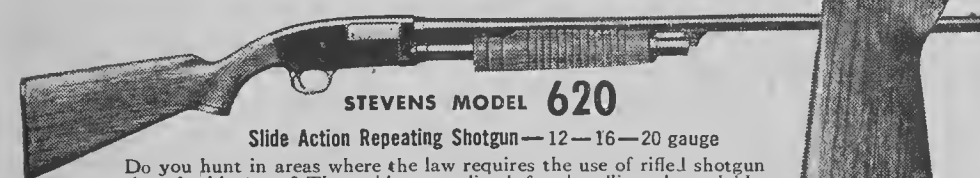
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FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Film Board Photo.

4-H club work builds a closer relationship between father and son.

Our Future Farmers

NUMBER three of the 4-H symbol is a dedication of "hands to larger service." One of the most prominent lines of the hand is the lifeline. There are many kinds of lifelines, both real and symbolic. Agriculture has been called the lifeline of the nation, for no country could long survive without a prosperous agricultural economy.

The farmers of today are charged with the task of maintaining the lifeline of our food production. For the farmers of tomorrow the job presents an even greater challenge, because they will have to increase this production to meet the needs of the world's expanding population. They will have to do this on the fixed resources of the world's arable land, and it will require all the initiative and agricultural "know how" they are able to command. The most promising reservoir of future farmers is today's farm youth.

Key organization in the training of future farmers in Canada is the Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work. The Council is not a government body, but has the blessing and support of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, the provincial departments, national farm organizations, and many industrial and business firms. Founded in November, 1930, the organization has seen club membership grow by leaps and bounds until more than 58,000 boys and girls, between 10 and 21 years of age, belong to the 4,000 clubs of this country.

There is a 4-H club for every facet of modern farming—dairy, beef, sheep, swine, poultry, potatoes, grain, gardening, forestry, food, clothing, electricity, and tractor maintenance. In order to "learn by doing," members are given definite projects to complete under the direction of local people who have volunteered for this work. In addition to practical tasks, members are taught to apply to agriculture the latest methods of business and science—to strive for farm efficiency, and later, to assume positions of leadership in senior agricultural organizations.

After the 4-H clubs, the responsibility of keeping the younger generation on the land rests with their elders. Farm parents can't expect the young ones to stay on indefinitely as hired hands without pay. They'll be mixing with other young people who have well-paid jobs in the towns.

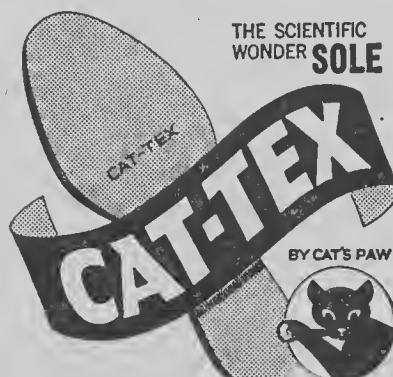
Wise farm parents today are encouraging their sons and daughters to build up shares in the family business. The best way to run a family business is to form a legal partnership—in cases of large families, the farm is often converted into a limited company. A sense of personal ownership arouses and sustains a lively interest in the job, and with it the will to succeed. The young farm businessman is not likely to want to punch a time-clock in the city.

Intangibles of 4-H Club Work

RUPERT D. RAMSAY, Director of Extension at the University of Saskatchewan, was for many years in charge of 4-H club work in that province. Some time ago he aptly summed up some of the intangible benefits farm young people receive from 4-H training when he said:

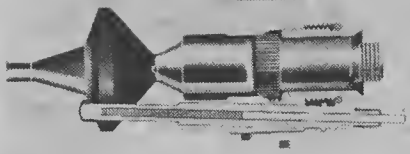
"Underlying all the training, of course, is a series of basic truths and philosophies regarding life, the soil, and nature. Almost unconsciously, the club member develops a higher regard for the business of farming. He learns how pieces of the jig-saw puzzle fit together, and he takes home to the kitchen table the things he learns at club meetings. The club becomes a family affair, from which every member of the family, perhaps unconsciously, absorbs the homely philosophy of the good life.

"The family then becomes the board of directors of a business, with each member developing a personality that counts for something. Father-son, and mother-daughter relationships are built up that endure the test of time. Over and over again, parents have reported to our office that club work has wrought a change in their family—and always for the better."

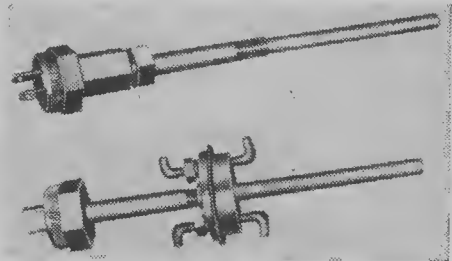


at all fine shoe repairers!

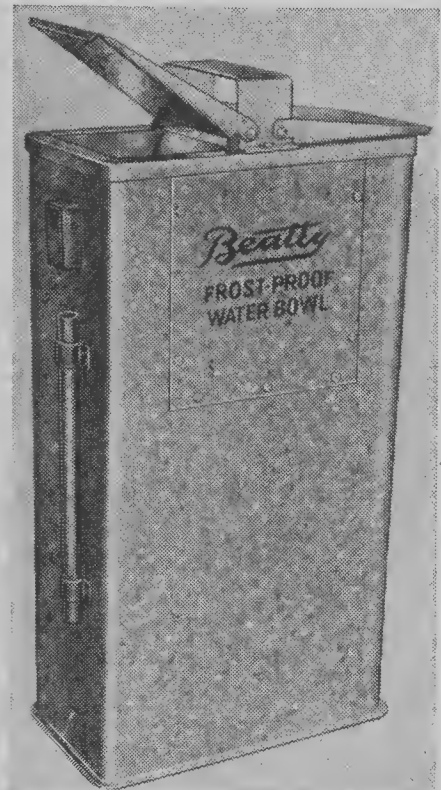
WHAT'S NEW



Activated by battery current, this glow plug extends into the precombustion chamber of the Caterpillar D4 track-type diesel tractor, and is said to reach a temperature of 1,800 degrees in 30 seconds. It acts as a heating element. (Caterpillar Tractor Co.) (50) ✓



Installation ease, immediate heat and longer unit life are features of these newly designed, 115-volt, 650-watt, immersion engine preheaters, says the manufacturer. Installation is simplified by a specially designed clamping bolt freeze-plug adapter, to reduce leaking, sometimes a problem with drive-in, force-fit freeze-plug adapters. (Phillips Manufacturing Co.) (51) ✓



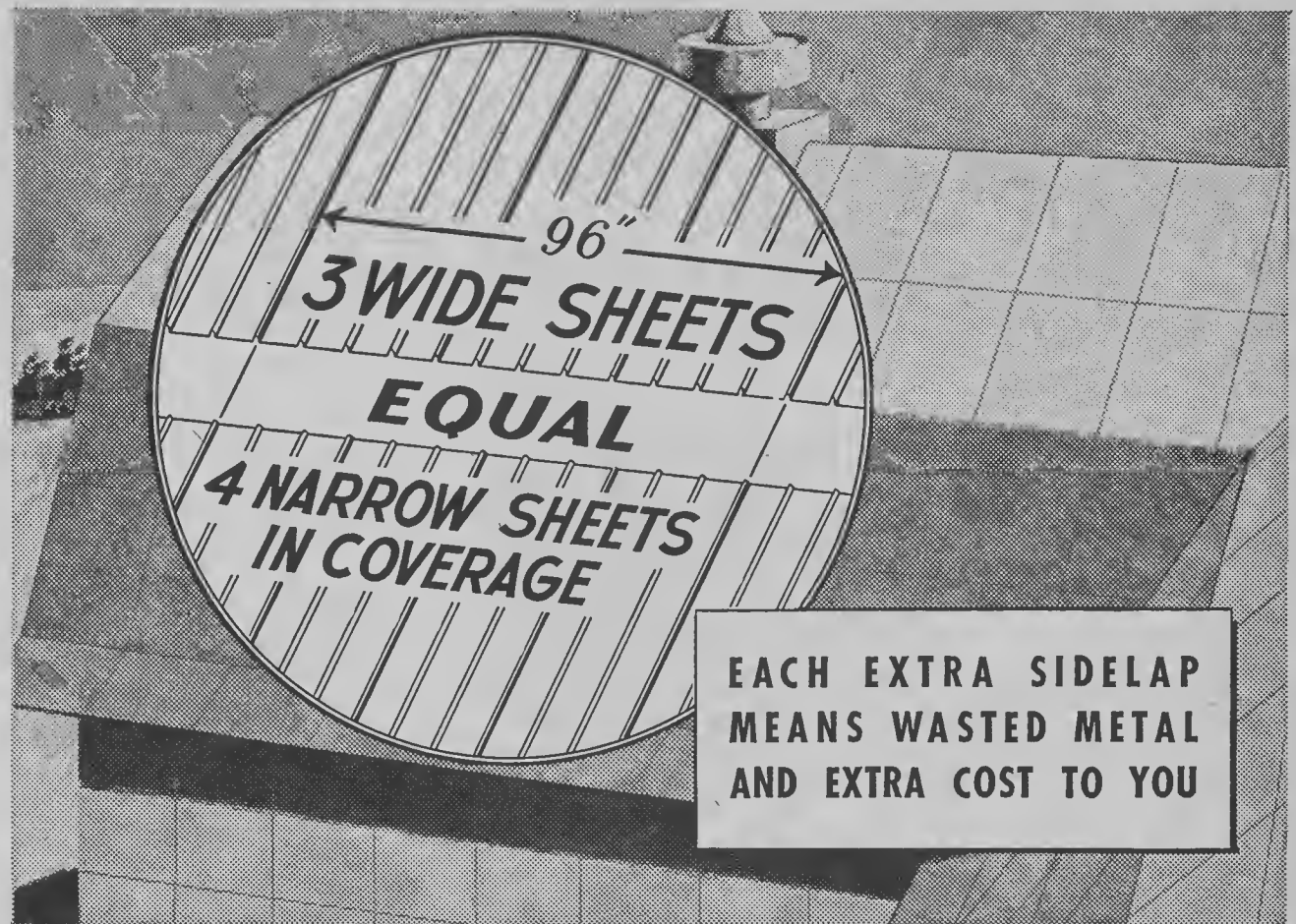
This insulated, frost-proof and electrically controlled water bowl, good in -25° F. weather, is said to be suitable for pole barns, sheds and feedlots. Dug 26 inches into the ground, with the bowl 16 inches above ground, the feed pipe comes out of the center of the bottom from below the frost line. The water supply is float-controlled and kept between 33° F. and 45° F. (Beatty Bros., Limited.) (52) ✓

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, giving the key number shown in parenthesis at the end of each item, as—(17).

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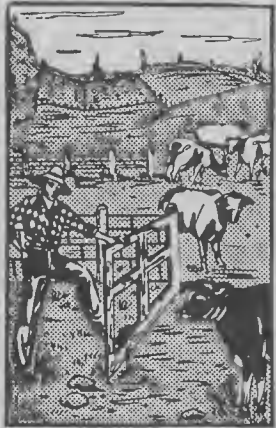
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Amounts quoted above are for men. A similar plan is available for women.

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MONTHLY

Reduced World Wheat Crop in Prospect

Recent trade and official reports suggest world wheat production prospects for 1954 are somewhat lower than last year's estimates at this time. Present conditions vary substantially in different wheat producing countries. A considerably smaller crop is in prospect for North America, a somewhat smaller outturn for Europe and possible increases indicated in Asia and Africa. Since the new crops are just getting underway in the southern hemisphere countries it is too early to obtain estimates of their prospective production.

The total yield of crops in the principal western European countries is not expected to be as high as earlier forecasts and may run considerably below last year's outturn. Heavy rains are reported to have caused considerable damage to wheat and coarse grains and have seriously hampered normal harvesting operations.

In the United Kingdom, the quality and quantity of all grains have been severely affected by adverse weather conditions. However, injury to the wheat crop is reported not to be as great as that suffered by oats and barley. In northern Europe, the Swedish crop has been damaged substantially thereby cutting that country's potential export surplus.

Total production of both winter and spring wheat in the United States was estimated at 978 million bushels as of August 1, but it has been reported that further deterioration of the crop has taken place since that date. A crop of even these proportions would be some 16 per cent below that of 1953 and 13 per cent smaller than the long-term average. Conditions in the spring wheat areas have been responsible largely for the reduction in wheat estimates.

Following the ravages of rust and the adverse weather conditions of recent weeks it is now certain that the Canadian wheat crop will be substantially below earlier expectations. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics wheat crop estimate released September 15 estimated production at 378 million bushels. This compares with the August estimate of 513 million bushels and with a realized production of 594 million bushels in 1953. This estimate is based on conditions at the beginning of the month and, if anything, conditions have deteriorated rather than improved since that time. Unless a prolonged period of warm, dry weather is experienced, the outturn of the Prairie wheat crop could be substantially below this estimate.

The continuation of damp, cold weather would undoubtedly result in large quantities of grain being delivered in damp or tough condition. This would be particularly dangerous this year in view of the congested state of our country and terminal elevator system. With this in mind, the Canadian Wheat Board recently issued a timely warning to grain producers throughout the Prairie Provinces. In part, the statement read as follows:

"With only limited country elevator and terminal space available, and with the prospect of congested storage facilities

ties for some time to come, the Board stated that it would be impossible to handle tough and damp grain in any volume. To the extent that producers do harvest out-of-condition grain they must accept the responsibility of storing such grain on their farms."

While weather hazards still constitute a threat to the effective harvesting of the Western Canadian wheat crop, the most serious factor—rust—has completed its scourge. In Saskatchewan, damage is estimated as being the heaviest since 1935 and losses have been extensive in Manitoba. Durum losses, in particular, have been severe in the latter province, with samples grading No. 4 C.W. amber durum and lower, thus rendering much of it unfit for the needs of macaroni manufacturers.

Rust damage reduces not only the yield per acre but causes serious deterioration in grade. A survey of the rust damage throughout Manitoba and Saskatchewan would suggest a high percentage of this year's wheat crop grading No. 5, No. 6 and Feed. Since coarse grain yields will be below expectations, there could well be a large market for feed grains, including wheat this winter. Some of this may be fed in the Prairie Provinces, while the demand should be strong in Ontario where crops are reported as only fair. Prospects for the continuation of feed wheat sales to the United States, however, may not be as good as in previous years. That country now has substantial supplies of coarse grains on hand and feed wheat may be in plentiful supply as the result of rust damage on the other side of the border.

A partial answer would be supplied by more cattle on feed in western Canada, but livestock feeders may have their problems too. In volume and quality the West's 1954 hay crop has never been better, but wet weather during the haying season resulted in severe losses while the hay was in the windrow. Reports point to an acute hay shortage in many districts this winter. This factor could influence the utilization of feed grains over the next eight months.

Restrictions on Oats and Barley Imports Imposed by U.S.

The question of the effect of oats and barley imports upon the U.S. domestic price support program has been reviewed by the United States Tariff Commission. Hearings by the Commission have ended and only the nature and extent of the restrictions remain to be determined. What this will be is anyone's guess, but certain recommendations are known to have been made by the United States Department of Agriculture.

A proposal has been advanced, which if approved by the President, would impose a ceiling on imports of oats of 40 million bushels annually from all sources. Since the bulk of U.S. imports are obtained from this country, Canada would be the principal nation affected.

The recommendations would impose restrictions on barley imports for the first time. These include a special 20 per cent ad valorem tax in addition to the existing tariff of 7½ cents per

COMMENTARY

bushel on barley and 30 cents a 100 pounds on barley malt. The recommendations carried provision for the exemption from the special tariff of 16.4 million bushels. Of this amount 2.1 million bushels of barley malt and 14.3 million bushels of straight barley would be duty-exempt.

George McIvor, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, who appeared at the hearings on behalf of the Canadian producers, urged that no limit be placed on U.S. purchases of either Canadian oats or barley. He stated that the amount of oats and barley exported to the United States by Canada was too small to upset the American price structure. He pointed out also that the pattern of this trade has been developed over a period of years and has met a basic and persistent American demand for these products. In this latter connection Mr. McIvor undoubtedly had in mind New England feeders who value very highly the feeding qualities of Canadian oats and who have protested the proposed restrictions.

However, the arguments advanced by those favoring the restrictions went far beyond the factors immediately pertaining to importation of oats and barley. The marketing operations of the Canadian Wheat Board, trade relations between the two countries and the freight rate structure on grain shipped from western Canada came under review. A representative of a large U.S. farm co-operative argued that statutory freight rates on Canadian grain gave the Canadian farmer an unfair advantage.

The official case for restrictions was stated by Mr. G. Burmeister, assistant administrator of the foreign agriculture service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He dealt at some length with the American supply position and the U.S. price support system. Mr. Burmeister then proceeded to discuss Canadian marketing policies. He said:

"The Canadian procedure of making a small initial payment which is well below the United States support level provides considerable leeway in pricing Canadian oats available for export. Oats are practically certain to continue to be priced at levels which will encourage their export to the United States even when domestic prices are below the support level. Similarly nearly all other countries that might be in a position to export oats to the United States have some kind of government control over export marketing.

"Under the circumstances outlined above, unrestricted imports of oats after September 30, 1954, will materially interfere with the achievement of the objectives of the price support program by preventing United States farmers from selling their product in an orderly manner through regular trade channels at prices not less than the support price."

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Mr. Burmeister proposed a fixed quota of indefinite duration and advised that it should last for a period of at least two years.

U.S. Plan to Dispose of Farm Surpluses

President Eisenhower has announced his policy designed to dispose of U.S. farm surpluses in the next three years

without "demoralizing world commodity markets."

Under an act approved by Congress \$700 million worth of these commodities may be sold abroad and \$300 million worth given to friendly countries in the event of a national disaster. The purpose of the act may be summarized as follows:

1. In the interests of general welfare to induce a gradual and orderly liquidation of world agricultural surpluses.
2. To dispose of U.S. farm supplies in a manner designed to avoid impairment of the competitive position of other countries.
3. Increase the consumption in areas where undernourishment is prevalent.

In explaining the program President Eisenhower said:

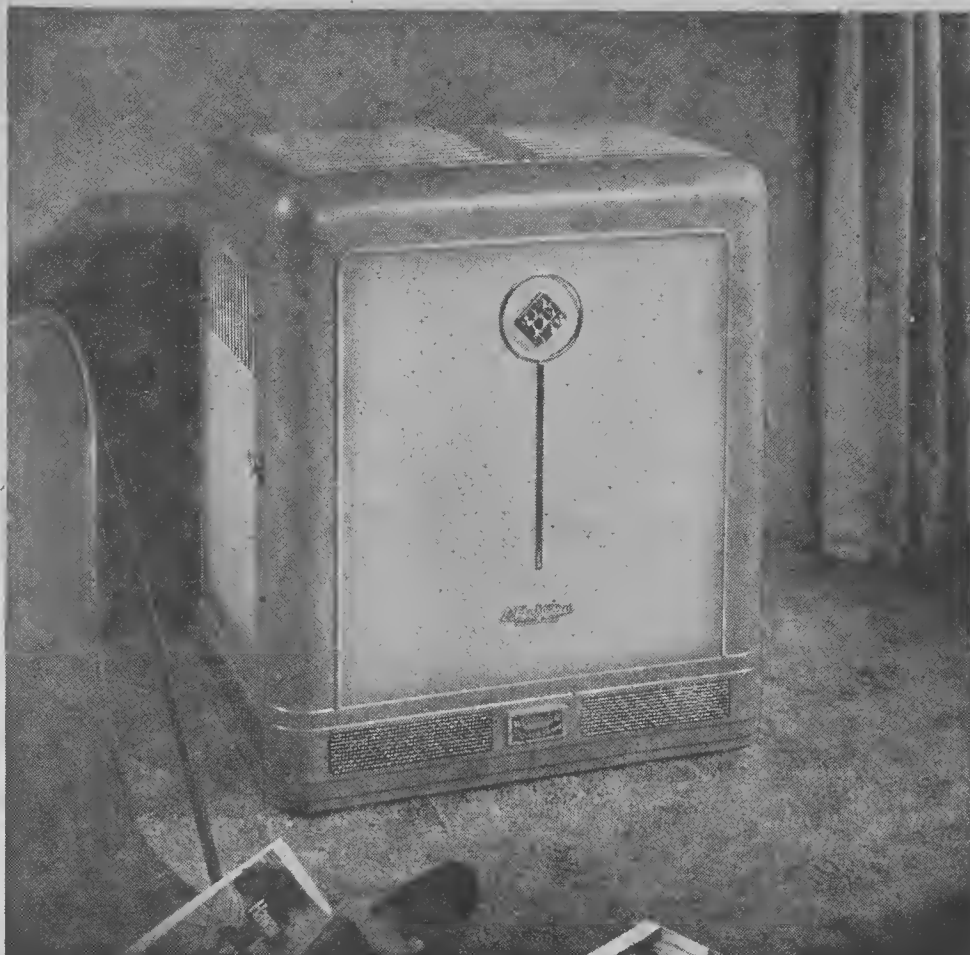
"It is in the long-run interest of the American farmer, as well as all Canadians, for this country to work with other nations in a mutual effort to expand international trade, and to promote the fuller convertibility of currencies, the freer movement of investment capital and the interchange of technical information."

Final Payments on Oats and Barley Near

Trade Minister C. D. Howe, during an address to the Canadian Club at Saskatoon on September 15, stated that he would be able to announce final payments on the 1953-54 oats and barley pools at an early date. It was stated that the Canadian Wheat Board had disposed of all the oats and barley delivered by western producers during the crop year ended July 31, 1954. The Trade Minister stated there was good demand at home and abroad for Canadian oats and barley but he showed concern over the reference of these two grains to the United States tariff commission. However, he added that the goodwill and co-operation shown to Canada by the U.S. administration was so evident that he would be surprised if the President agreed to apply restrictions against Canadian oats and barley which might cause "hardship and bitterness" among a large group of the Canadian population.

During the address no mention was made of an interim or final payment on 1953-54 wheat deliveries. To date producers have received the initial price of \$1.40 basis No. 1 Northern and less the freight deduction at delivery points. During the 1952-53 crop year two interim payments and a final payment were made bringing the total price to approximately \$1.81 a bushel.

There is no expectation of two interim as well as a final payment on last year's crop. However, in view of the price range at which wheat was sold during the past crop year it might be reasonable to expect an interim payment and a later final payment.



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Nature Quiz, With Answers

Here are some questions about birds, bats, snakes and pocket gophers—with answers

by KERRY WOOD

EVERY naturalist in the country gets hundreds of letters every year from farmers, who have daily contact with various aspects of natural history. Frequently, the writers divulge good first-hand information about nature on farms; often they ask questions. Having just returned from a jaunt away from home, my desk was high piled with the pleasant letters this morning, and here are the more interesting Q and A developments of the correspondence.

Q. Are there any harmful snakes in the prairie provinces?

A. The prairie rattlesnake is found in small numbers on the arid southern



[W. McKenzie photo]

Prairie rattlesnake ready to strike.

prairies of both Saskatchewan and Alberta. During the autumn, a pre-hibernation gathering near a riverbank cave may sometimes number up to a hundred rattlers or more, but usually they are encountered alone, and not very often. Such rattlesnakes are not aggressive, seldom attacking a person if they have a chance to withdraw and get out of the way. While they are capable of inflicting a poisonous bite, and thus may be considered harmful, they do good by feeding on ground squirrels, pocket gophers, and mice.

The common western snake is the garter snake, which occurs in at least three varieties. They meet up with a lot of mice during their travels and devour new-born mice whenever they get the chance. It's also true that garter snakes find a few fledglings of ground-nesting birds and eat them, but on the whole, their mouse and insect-feeding habits make them beneficial on farmlands.

Q. Do the swallows that nest under the gables of barns attract bedbugs to our homes?

A. That particular swallow is called the eave or cliff swallow; it's the bird that builds a gourd-shaped nest out of mud pellets. It has a parasite which resembles the bedbug in appearance, but the creature is not a bedbug and cannot do any harm to humans, or to our buildings. Swallows are worthwhile tenants to encourage around a farmstead, as they help keep down flies, mosquitoes, and other insects. Some members of the swallow

family are reputed to destroy 10,000 mosquitoes per bird, per summer.

Q. How do I get rid of pocket gophers in a hayfield?

A. Hurrah for you, for not calling them "moles" as most farmers do! The pocket gopher is the true gopher of the west—the "gopher" name has been given to the Richardson's ground squirrel. The pocket gopher is an underground digger, seldom seen, but responsible for all the black earth push-up "holeless" mounds in pasture and hayfields. The best natural control agent is the weasel, but a farmer can't whistle up a weasel on order. Ridding a large hayfield of pocket gophers takes time. Some farmers use a hose attached to the exhaust pipe of a tractor, putting the free end of the hose down a pocket gopher hole, which can be located by pressing with the boot heel around a fresh push-up mound until a soft spot indicates the runway position, then dig down until the run is exposed. It'll be from six to ten inches under the surface. Let the tractor motor run for ten minutes at each spot; the monoxide fumes humanely destroy any pocket gophers within 100 feet of the tractor. Some farmers use poisoned beetles to rid their fields of these animals.

But remember: while the earthen push-ups may dull your mower blades in a hayfield and thus annoy you, pocket gophers are the real soil makers of the west. They help give western fields the rich depth of humus that makes our land so productive. And they help aerate the soil and speed up the spring run-off of surface waters, by means of their numerous tunnels. Each pocket gopher is capable of dig-



[Author's photo]

Ducks will nest and rest on these rafts on a sanctuary pond.

ging a mile of underground tunnels per year in its search for vegetable and root foods.

Q. How can I get rid of bats? They lived in our house attic last summer and nearly drove me frantic.

A. Well, don't try to kill them, because western Canadian bats are all insect feeders, and therefore very valuable. I'll admit that the noise they make in an attic becomes very annoying, while sometimes the smell of their

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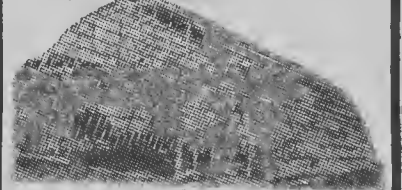
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droppings gets offensive, when their numbers are around a hundred or more. The best thing to do is have a carpenter check the attic thoroughly and seal up any openings, even half-inch cracks, around chimneys, windows, or eaves, and be sure to put fly-screens over every ventilator. If it is impossible to make a tight job of sealing up the attic, try sprinkling moth balls in quantity wherever the bats congregate. Put the moth balls in cheesecloth bags and hang them around the area where bats roost, also, sprinkle a few pounds on the attic floor. Bats (and mice) seem to object to the naphtha smell. For a cost of two or three dollars per year, a house attic can be generously dosed with moth balls. This queer remedy really works in most cases.

Q. Please give me directions for making my farm a wildlife preserve.

A. First, provide protection for wild creatures by posting the area as a sanctuary. Leave thickets of brush and trees in corners of fields and along fence rows, to provide shelter for birds and animals, and protective screening for nests and dens. If you can spare the time, a winter feeding station will attract many birds to your home region—lumps of suet tied to trees or fastened on boards will attract woodpeckers of various kinds, black-capped and Hudsonian chickadees, nut-hatches, jays, even red squirrels and possibly flying squirrels. Cracked grain, or similar seed food, will appeal to upland game birds such as pheasants, sharp-tailed and ruffed grouse, and Hungarian partridges, also the valuable seed-eating birds such as red polls, snow buntings, juncos, and various members of the grosbeak family. Plant a number of berry-bearing trees near the farm buildings and woodlots to provide attractive food for birds: the hardy Siberian crabapple, mountain ash, cottoneaster, Manitoba maple, and red elder. Put up two or three dozen bird boxes of the proper dimensions for such birds as purple martins, tree swallows, bluebirds, and chickadees, and nesting platforms for robins and phoebes. If your farm hasn't many trees, put up T-shaped roosts at 200-yard intervals along the fences until you can get some shrubs established: birds are very fond of T-roosts for use as lookout and singing perches. If you have a slough on your farm, build two or more log rafts, and anchor them well out from the shore; or build a couple of permanent islands on the slough. Waterfowl use such safely-moated rafts and islands for nesting, resting, and preening places.

The chief requirements for a farm wildlife preserve are protection, shelterbelts and screening cover for nests and dens, and food. V

The Age of the Homeless

Continued from page 15

In 1953, Dr. Chandler said, 2,500 of these Hong Kong refugees were resettled in Australia, South America or Europe, through World Council efforts. "Hundreds of the aged, sick and handicapped are being cared for in Church homes in Belgium, France, Switzerland, and the Scandinavian countries," he added. In Trieste, over 4,000 homeless people are crowded into the refugee camps, where the

World Council tries to aid them in resettlement, and distributes supplementary food and clothing. The Council's staff and vocational training schools in Trieste help the refugees by providing education in 25 trades. It provides recreation, language training, and summer camps, in co-operation with the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A.

Despite the generosity of governments which made it possible to resettle thousands of refugees last year in South America, Australia and Canada, and "despite our hopes that the Churches of the United States will provide for a fair share," there is little or no chance of resettlement for many refugees. Among these, he explained, are the 900,000 Arab refugees, many of them Christian, displaced from their homes in Palestine by the establishment of the new state of Israel.

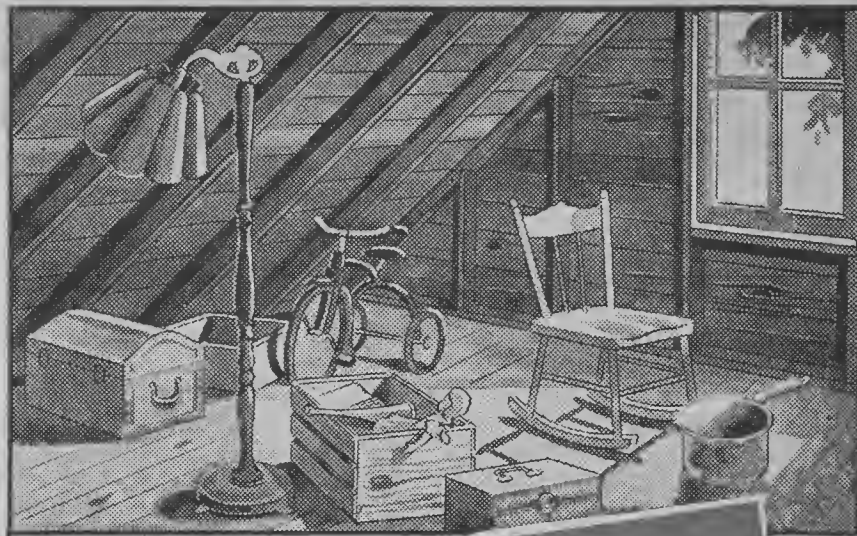
Those that constitute the greatest problem are "hard-core" individuals. These may be senile, tubercular, or alcoholic, even former prostitutes. In spite of the difficulty of settling such people, The World Council has found homes for many thousands of them.

SOME 20 agencies, including the United Nations, have been working on the refugee problem since the war, but The World Council of Churches and its related Churches have rescued and resettled more refugees than all the other agencies combined. In every case the refugee is treated, not as a name on an index card, or a number, but as an individual human problem. One man who fled from Poland rather than place his three sons in Communist-inspired schools, arrived in Trieste penniless, and threw himself upon the mercy of The World Council of Churches. His wife was found to have tuberculosis and so was sent to Switzerland for treatment, his baby was placed in a nursery school in Italy, and his sons went to vocational schools operated by The World Council. The father found work with the Allied Military Government. After a year and a half, the family was reunited and sent to Canada, where the father is now employed as a forester.

The United Christian Youth Movement, operating under the World Council, had 1,100 young people in work camps throughout the world this summer, paying their own expenses and giving freely of their time in manual labor, or in whatever way was required of them, to bear their witness through service. One such project, of three years' duration, was the restoration of a farming community in Greece, near the Albanian border. There, 400 persons from three villages had been rendered homeless, when their valley lands were inundated. In this case, young people from nine countries helped the local people to drain their land and get it back into production again. Before leaving, they also taught the villagers how to use the tractors and other modern equipment.

Thus, while want, privation, heartache and disillusionment stalks the earth, there is also a Christian army which knows no boundaries of race or class, for whom bamboo and iron curtains present no barriers, because its fellowship transcends all barriers.

(John G. Ferry is a United Church minister at Kerrobert, Sask., who was present at the meeting of The World Council of Churches in Evanston, Illinois, and writes informatively.—ed.) V



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Swedish Farmer

Continued from page 13

away from traditional methods of silage making in Scandinavia. Since a Finnish biochemist, Prof. A. I. Virtanen made the original discovery in 1931, most northern European farms have employed hydrochloric acid as an effective and cheap ensilage preservative. Until four years ago, Olof followed the same course, but when he began experimenting with molasses as a preservative, he found that his cows ate more molasses-treated silage than acid-treated. Consequently, he has switched entirely to the molasses system.

It was in discussing silage methods that we ran into our first snag when talking through an interpreter. We listened with something approximating horror to the relayed description of an apparently unsuccessful experiment in feeding the cows "field mice." It took a good bit of gesticulating to have this translated to "field maize," the Swedish term for fodder corn, which apparently doesn't take kindly to the northern climate.

The Holmer herd consists of 17 registered "Swedish Red" cows, probably closer to milking Shorthorns than any other Canadian breed. Olof calculates an average production per cow of 5,000 litres (11,350 lbs.) yearly, on twice-a-day milking. Butterfat content has averaged 224 kilograms (494 lbs.) per cow per year.

Olof figures that the rations for his dairy cows run about one-third pasture, twenty per cent each of root

crops, hay and ensilage, about five per cent oats, barley and oil cake meal and about two per cent mineral supplement. During the relatively short summer, pasture is the main diet, but



Built-in thresher in Holmer barn. Chute brings sheaves from above.

cows giving more than 25 litres (57 lbs.) of milk daily get a supplement of oat and barley meal.

The milk is sold on a fluid basis to a co-operative dairy. It was intriguing to watch the Swedish distribution system. The fluid milk is picked up in the morning by a creamery truck and delivered to the dairy. In the afternoon the skim milk is returned again to the farm. At most farm gates there is a stand where milk cans may be seen

perched anytime after three in the afternoon. It is a system that seems to make for a lot of transportation, but on the other hand it cuts down the amount of dairy equipment necessary on each individual farm. And even during the long and rugged Scandinavian winters, road clearing pools, or co-operatives, organized by the farmers themselves, manage to keep most roads open most of the time.

THERE was once a large part of the Holmer barn set aside for horses, but there are only three single stalls used now, and the animals have an easy time of it. Olof has an adequate line of power machinery, but we noticed that there was no tendency to overstock on new models. Even his oldest machinery had a well-cared-for appearance, and was under cover. He pointed out a neat six-foot combine and asked us if we thought it was too large for his needs. Apparently his neighbors, as they are occasionally wont to do, had been criticizing him for extravagance in buying such a "big" machine. He seemed surprised that we were unaware of smaller models.

Olof has displayed a good deal of inventive genius, and in a number of places around the farm there are evidences of his handiwork. Apart from the built-in threshing machine in the north end of the barn, he has devised a lever attachment for his milk cooler, to hold the milk cans in the water as they are being filled. Behind the barn there is a well-equipped workshop with just about every type of electrical tool, and he had just finished rigging a pit in the workshop so he could work under his tractor or truck in comfort.

Apart from Olof's own liking for things mechanical, there has been a development in Swedish agriculture, which tends to discourage rash purchases of new machinery when older models can be made to do. This is a service provided by the state department of agriculture known as machinery counselling. In each district there is a state machinery counsellor, whose advice may be asked by farmers, at any time they are contemplating the purchase of a new machine. The coun-



Olof Holmer demonstrates device for holding cans in cooler for filling.

sellor's job is to make sure that the machine is fitted to the particular needs of the farm. Just how such a counsellor is supposed to keep the

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THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

various farm machinery companies out of his hair, wasn't explained.

LAST summer the income on the Holmer farm was mainly derived from the dairy herd and the cash crops of rapeseed and winter wheat. Until a few months previously, Olof had been in the hog business in a fairly large way. He had acquired a good registered Landrace boar, and was breeding sows from him on other farms, as well as his own. Olof thinks it was this practice that was responsible for the outbreak of rhinitis among his pigs. The outbreak was squelched by adopting a slaughter policy, but it left the pig enterprise in a rather dubious state. By June there were only four Yorkshire sows on the farm, and Olof was undecided as to what course he might follow.

Behind the mansion-like proportions of the Saby farm house lies a family joke of long standing. Olof explained it this way:

"The house was planned in 1926 when my father was still doing well financially. By the time we had the foundations laid he was broke, but the foundations were there and somehow we managed to put up a house big enough to cover them."

Since then a good deal of modernization has taken place in the home. Like almost all Swedish farms, Saby is electrified, and more recently, plumbing has been installed. Three big front rooms look out across the cultivated land to the lake.

Sitting there one rainy day last June, Olof admitted to a bit of smugness that his hay was all in the loft of the barn. On the other hand, just as if to prove there is a bit of pessimism in any farmer's outlook, he wondered if too much rain might not damage the root crops.

The same conflicting views of caution and complacency divided his general feelings about agriculture. He admitted roundly that the past ten years had been a good decade for



"I've sailed these waters man and boy seven years, and I've never seen as ugly a duckling as you!"

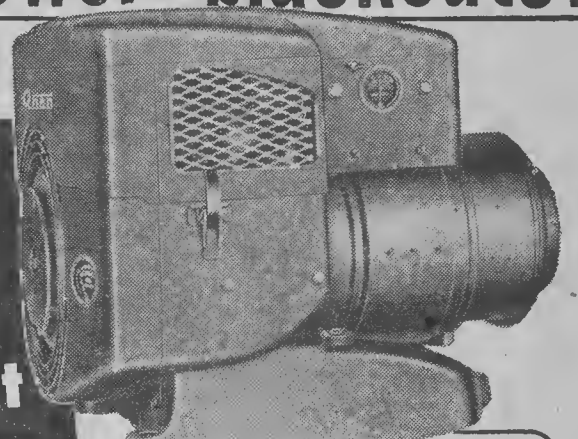
Swedish farmers. With the exception of some wheat and dairy surpluses, Sweden's agricultural industry is not overly burdened with vexing problems. But Olof, who follows closely the affairs of Sweden's national farm organizations, believes firmly that farm income will not continue on such a high level.

With a meaning look toward his own ten-year-old son, Bjorn, he said: "It is a time for careful farming."

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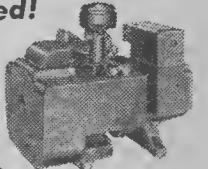
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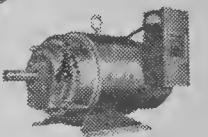
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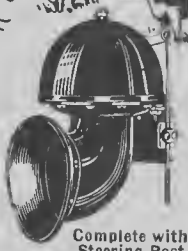
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Rod and Gun

Afield

By Kit Kitney

Tod looked at the huge, gnarled old tree stump and snorted.

"I'll be darned! This .303 of mine punched right through, using old army ammo at that . . . and your .270 which is supposed to be such a super-speed long-range killer, didn't even show a splinter. By gad, I think you've been sucked in by these gun writers!"

Tod was a newcomer to The Shooting, Fishing and Poker Society and Gus was waiting for the Dean to set him straight. He didn't have long to wait.

"You've got the wrong slant on killing power," the old cuss told Tod as he toolled the auto expertly through the twisting brush road. "A bullet which punches holes through plenty of wood is good for punching holes, but that doesn't say it's going to be any great shucks as a killer."

"What's needed for deer is a bullet constructed so it will expand fully, using up almost all its energy inside the critter. The best bullet, the way I see it, is one which uses up its energy in destroying muscles, organs and nerves, not punching through and skedaddling off over the countryside."

"All other things being equal, the faster a bullet travels, the more shock and destruction it will deal out."

"That's why for long range work and open country shooting, there's been such a swing recently to medium to light weight bullets travelling at highest possible speeds."

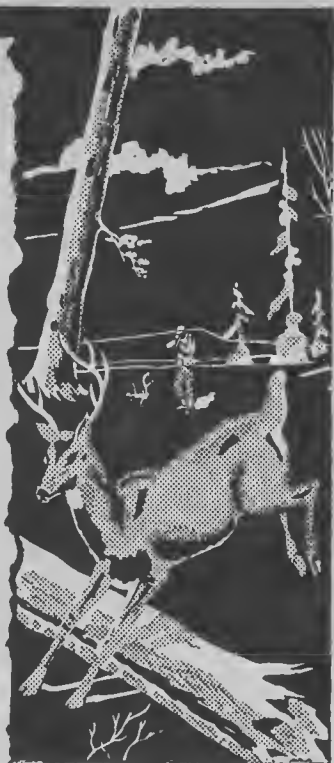
"A bullet of 150 grains weight in .30 calibre, if it's the right construction will give far more one shot kills on deer than heavier, tougher bullets, which are more rightly designed for elk, moose and bigger game."

"The National Rifle Association in the U.S. conducted a survey a few years ago, and they found that the tops in on-the-spot kills went to 150 grain slugs in .30/06 calibre travelling around 2900 foot seconds."

"For the same reason the 130 grain Dominion .270 pointed soft point loaded to 3140 foot seconds is forging to the front as a long range killer."

"The same goes for high-speed, light-bullet loadings in .300 Savage, .303 British and .250-3000, to name the best. They all start out at better than 2,500 foot seconds, and they are all deadly on deer, because they're designed especially for that job."

TAKE A TIP FROM KIT KITNEY, popular outdoor columnist of the Winnipeg Tribune, make sure your load is right for the game you hunt. DOMINION Centre Fire Cartridges are available in a wide variety of bullets weights and types.



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Report From Rome

by JOHN ANDERSON

Representatives from 20 nations, including Canada, met in Rome at the end of September for further discussions on surpluses. The countries concerned were members of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's Committee on Commodity Problems. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the whole surplus situation in the light of the latest developments, and to examine proposals for orderly disposal of surpluses, which had been previously put before a consultative sub-committee in Washington earlier in the year.

War on locusts. A meeting in Rome in September drew attention to the dramatic battle now being fought against the locust swarms that threaten the existence of farmers in countries from India to Morocco. For several years, combat teams have been operating in the locust danger areas, attacking the advancing swarms with insecticides and endeavoring to locate the main breeding areas. This spring, however, extra heavy breeding took place in Pakistan, the Middle East and northwest Africa. By April, the swarms had begun to spread outwards into other areas; and further summer breeding brought the locust plague to India and to large areas in Africa, from the Somalia peninsula and Kenya right across westwards to French Equatorial Africa. This widespread plague not only means heavy damage to crops at the present time, but would normally also lead to further heavy locust breeding next spring. However, at the Rome meeting, which was attended by the experts of 13 countries, it was agreed that next year's breeding could be controlled, provided adequate steps were taken now—and provided sufficient money was forthcoming. For immediate operations alone the cost was estimated at well over a million dollars.

Newcastle disease, prevalent amongst poultry in many Asian countries, has received a severe setback in Thailand. Local production of a vaccine has been effected from a strain of the Newcastle disease virus, brought to Thailand from England. Local research workers, under the guidance of F.A.O. experts, found this vaccine easy and economical to produce, and capable of being freeze-dried for easy transportation to more remote areas. Poultry vaccination is now being carried out on a wide scale.

Every spring for countless years, in certain countries of the Middle East, a small insect known as the sen has left the hills where it has spent the winter in hibernation and flown down to the plains in search of fields of sprouting grain. The migrating sen insects make their homes on barley and wheat, sucking the juice from the new shoots, and laying eggs, 70 to 80 at a time. In their turn, the larvae from the eggs feed on the young grain until mature. Then they fly off back to the hills to hibernate, as the previous generations have done before. Behind them they leave useless fields of shrivelled and yellowing grain.

Iran is one of the countries that has suffered particularly heavy damage from the sen. It is also one of the coun-

tries that has taken active measures against the pest. With the help of F.A.O., it has discovered that the sen can best be combated with the help of the telenomus. The telenomus is itself an insect, but one which likes nothing better than a tasty dish of sen eggs. The telenomus is now proving itself to be as effective a killer of sen—also a much less costly one—as the chemical insecticides previously used in limited quantities. As a result, the telenomus has become a much-coddled insect. In the fall, to save it from the winter's cold, it is being brought into laboratories, and while there, used to breed yet more telenomus. The numbers produced are sufficient, in fact, to destroy the greater part of the sen attack in the following spring. Other Middle Eastern countries are also beginning to enjoy the benefits of Iran's pioneering work in this field.

The Little .22 Rifle

by DON CALKINS

EVERY year there are several deaths from the misuse of the .22 rifle. While it is possible that there always will be, a good many of them are the result of ignorance of the power of the .22, or are from improper handling.

First off, too many people regard the .22 as a sort of toy, just a bit more powerful than an air rifle. A very good way to learn of the deadliness of the innocent-looking little cartridge is to fill a tobacco, or jam, can with water, put the lid on tight, and put a long rifle bullet through it. Try it sometime, boys, and you will understand how a bullet can very easily go through a clump of brush and kill a friend on the other side.

Now let's take the matter of improper handling. Many people seem to think that the manufacturers put a safety catch on a rifle to boost the cost. I have seen many people that were fairly used to firearms shove the safety off long before there was any need for it. Such careless persons forget that a slip, or stumble, could very well both swing the gun in line with another person, and pull the trigger. It takes a small fraction of a second to slip the safety, so why not train yourself to slip it as the gun is coming up to your shoulder, and put it on before bringing the gun down.

Many people have been shot by their own guns when pulling them from the seat of a car by the muzzle. This is very wrong on two counts. For one thing, *never, never, pull, or lift a gun toward you by the muzzle.* The safety could have been jarred or nudged off, and the trigger catch on a twig or button. Since it is illegal to shoot from a road or highway there is no excuse for having a shell in the chamber, anyway. I frequently carry the magazines of my guns loaded while in a car, but *never* the chamber.

In crossing a fence the safest way is to lay your gun flat on the ground, empty, and then walk to the next panel of fence to climb over or through. If the snow is deep and you don't want to lay it down, open the action, lean it against a post, and again walk to another panel to crawl through or over.

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I'm a Pest Arrester

Continued from page 12

I don't know what there is about a bat that is so gruesome, but when one is disturbed in one's sleep by the soft whirr of wings just brushing one's face, it has a most electrifying effect on the sleeper. I'm not afraid of bats. I think they are rather cute little creatures when viewed in the light of day, but I somehow take an entirely different view of them when they make their nocturnal visits. I would be snatched from sleep by some frightening screams and I would leap from bed, only to find that I was the one responsible for the ear-shattering noise. My menfolk would arm themselves with brooms and sweep Mr. Bat down, along with the window blinds and the pictures. They would then toss the winged mouse outside and we would go back to bed, only to repeat the performance in a few hours.

This went on for some time and my husband began to lose patience. "I think they are sleeping in the attic during the day and coming down the chimney at night," he told the boys. His guess was right. We found them hanging upside down in the attic and the boys sealed them out of every possible entrance we could discover. They then took the sleepy bats from their roost and put them in a bag.

"Bats should be preserved," they explained. "They catch all kinds of other pests around the house at night. We'll take them up the road where all those hollow trees are. They'll make themselves new homes in the woods."

And then once more I couldn't sleep. No, it wasn't the bats that were bothering, but rather a guilty conscience. I was talking to my sister-in-law a short time later, and she informed me that a family of bats had moved in with them and were driving them batty. "It seems they sleep in the attic all day and come into the house through the fireplace at night. Have you ever heard of that?"

"I have heard of it," I admitted. "I have heard of it."

BUT there is one nice thing about being a pest arrester: one never has long to dwell on one defeat. Right now I have forgotten about the rose beetles that are devouring the rose buds, and the slugs that are slugging the day-lights out of the new delphiniums. All my wrath is directed at the sap-sucker that has killed my pet lilac—a white one that took years to grow. This sap of a bird is now attacking the May Day tree and the other lilacs; and though I have promised a day of reckoning for this obnoxious woodpecker, I know he'll complete his nefarious labors and move on to greener fields. I'll then salve my wounded pride by trying to deal out justice to the squirrels that are eating the grain sacks and the robin's eggs, the mice that are eating the peas out of the pods, and the new bug I have discovered sharpening his fangs on the cucumbers. To add to all this worry, my neighbor reports that a flock of starlings have just moved into the district to set up house-keeping.

I think I know now why the scientists worked so hard to discover the A and H bombs. I'll bet a wormy onion that they were once frustrated pest arresters just like me.



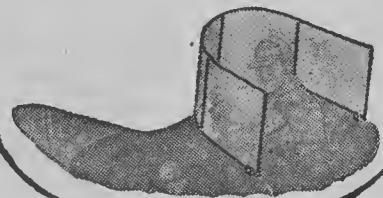
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Interior of Co-op Services big warehouse at Moncton, showing part of the \$100,000 stock of feed and flour.

Farm Co-op: No Farmer Need Apply

Continued from page 7

agreement, consist of four directors each from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and one from Prince Edward Island.

COMBINING the responsibilities of general manager and secretary of M.C.S. is W. H. McEwen. Mr. McEwen is a Manitoban, who was at one time associated with The Country Guide. He officially joined M.C.S. in 1931, during the first of its incarnations. He has, therefore, participated both in its difficulties and its successes. Indeed, since boards of directors come and go, it is certainly not too complimentary to suggest that he has been its chief architect of progress during the past 23 years.

As well as keeping an eye on the old, stand-by departments in M.C.S., he keeps a careful eye cocked toward the future. Just now he is watching, with more than usual interest, the development of a comparatively new co-operative insurance branch of the business, which last year brought nearly \$500,000 in income, by way of insurance premiums. M.C.S. is tied in with the two national co-operative insurance organizations namely, Co-operative Life Assurance Company, and Co-operative Fire and Casualty Company, each with its head office in Regina, Saskatchewan. This new business has brought some difficulties with it which are gradually being ironed out. Meanwhile, M.C.S. annual meeting operates as a central agency for the co-operative insurance business in the Maritimes.

Perhaps here is a good place to refer to the fact that Maritime Co-operative Services Ltd. is also a member of Interprovincial Co-operatives, with headquarters in Winnipeg. It is thus linked up directly with Saskatchewan Federated Co-operatives Ltd., and Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale Ltd., as well as the two corresponding organizations in Ontario and Quebec. Mr. McEwen is the representative of M.C.S. to Interprovincial Co-operatives, which provides an added interest and responsibility, in a period of substantial development.

Incidentally, the commercial operations of M.C.S. include, not only the

marketing of livestock, poultry and wool, but the sale of such diverse products and services as feed and flour, fertilizers, insecticides, seeds, machinery, groceries, audit services to local co-operatives, and insurance. The audit services are now a very minor item, having been largely taken over by the Co-operative Unions of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Poultry marketing, too, has fallen off, especially since late in 1953, when a chick hatchery and allied activities at Saint John, N.B., were closed out.

About 80 per cent of the dollar value of all M.C.S. operations, is concentrated in marketing operations and the sale of feed and flour. Machinery sales account for about six per cent of the total business, groceries five per cent, fertilizers four per cent, seeds about two per cent, and insecticides a fraction of one per cent.

ROY GRANT, assistant general manager and manager of the Marketing Department, is also secretary of the Maritime Federation of Agriculture. Mr. Grant takes great pride in the fact that not only have all co-op hogs been sold on a rail-graded basis since that method was introduced in 1940, but all



"I think I'd rather be a big frog in a little puddle."

lambs marketed by M.C.S. have been sold also on a rail-graded basis for many years. In more recent years, every encouragement has been given by M.C.S. to the marketing of cattle and calves in this manner.

The Maritime Provinces are normally self-sufficient in hogs, and have some surplus of lambs in the fall of the year. Nevertheless, some Australian or New Zealand lambs come into Halifax nearly every year at other seasons. The situation with regard to beef is different: the area produces no more than perhaps half of the beef con-

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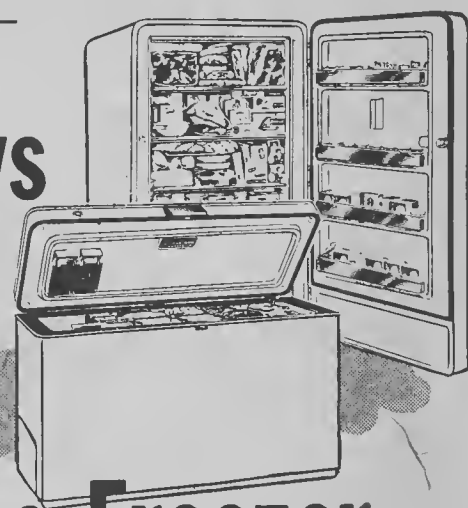
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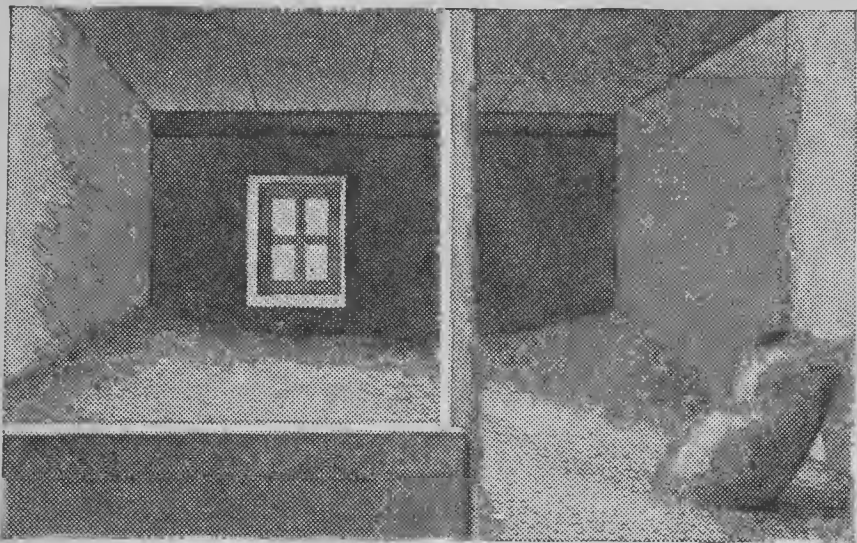
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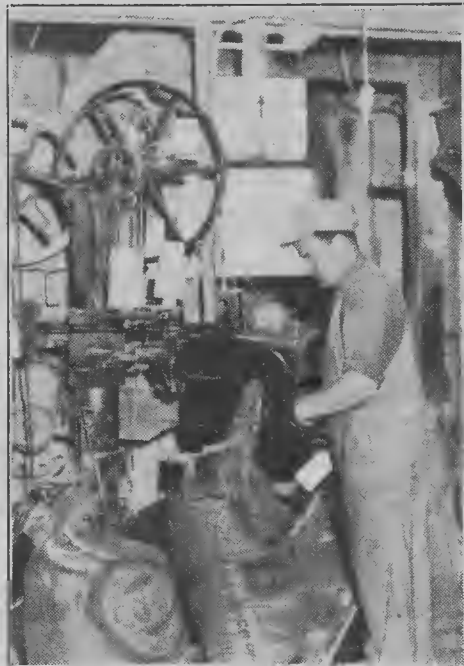
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sumed. It is really a dairying, rather than a beef area. Some good quality beef animals are raised, but the choicest of them are sold locally, for the most part. Thus, the animals which reach the public markets tend to be of medium, or poorer, quality.

Though market animals do not come forward in great quantities, M.C.S. believes that bargaining for sales while there is still a choice of markets, is advantageous to the producer. This means that selling on a dressed and rail-graded basis permits bargaining as to price before the animals are shipped. A very striking fact is that in each of the last five years the numbers



Bagging Co-op feeds at M.C.S. feed plant at Moncton, N.B.

of cattle, calves and lambs marketed through M.C.S. have shown marked increases. Hogs in the Maritimes, as well as elsewhere in Canada, have been down sharply.

M.C.S. works on a commission of one and one-half per cent, and distributes to the locals any surplus remaining at the end of the year. The locals themselves commonly charge one per cent, where they do not operate a pick-up service; and three per cent where they do. There is not much long-distance transportation, so that freight charges as a rule, do not exceed one cent per pound, dressed basis.

In view of the discussion that has recently taken place in western Canada with regard to producer marketing boards, it is interesting to note that M.C.S. is the selling agency for the hog marketing boards in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Most of the wool produced in the Maritimes comes from Nova Scotia, where, about eight years ago, a wool producers' marketing board was set up also. The marketing agency for wool is the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, but M.C.S. acts as the settlement agency.

The New Brunswick hog marketing board has been in operation for just three years, and the Nova Scotia board only since January, 1954. Mr. Grant was very emphatic that an over-all livestock marketing board would not be practicable in the Maritime Provinces. Hog marketing boards have been successful, he said, only because producers have been marketing hogs co-operatively for years. "It would require a long educational program," he added, "before the producers could be ready for cattle and sheep marketing boards. This is true, notwithstanding the fact that, in 1953, about 50 per cent of all cattle killed in inspected plants in the Maritimes came from co-operative

shipping clubs and were paid for on a rail-graded basis."

MARITIME Co-operative Services Ltd. found, some years ago, that its feed and flour business was expanding beyond its capacity at that time. It faced the necessity, therefore, of securing much larger premises for feed processing, as well as for the storage of merchandise such as machinery and groceries. The directors were able to acquire sufficient land and some buildings about two and one-half miles out of Moncton, on the site of a military camp that was being abandoned. There, in addition to warehouse space—since modified and expanded—it erected a large modern feed-processing plant which handled 2,485 carlots of feed materials last year—an increase of 200 carlots over the previous year. Sales also reached \$3.2 million.

In addition to this volume out of the Moncton plant, a further \$1.3 million worth of feed and flour was handled by direct sale. The association of M.C.S. with Interprovincial Co-operatives Ltd. brought substantial business from the sale of Co-op Red Label Flour, sales of which increased by 41 per cent during the last November-May period.

The sale of other co-op-labelled goods last year has been credited also with increasing grocery sales to well over \$500,000, while machinery and fertilizers combined, made a contribution to sales in excess of a million dollars. Seed sales increased substantially last year and reached \$182,818; and insecticides, though a much smaller item, showed an increase to just over \$30,000.

M.C.S., therefore, would appear to be exactly what its name indicates. Its co-operative services seem designed to serve the farmers of the three Maritime Provinces (including four or five local co-operatives in Newfoundland), in almost every direction in which the demand has arisen. If this demand was for the marketing of farm products, or for the purchase of farm supplies, M.C.S. seems to have been ready to render the service. As a commercial co-operative its responsibilities have also extended beyond the commercial field. It has interested itself not only in co-operative education, but in the support of adult education programs, and in the granting of scholarships for students at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. It is in active association with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. It has recently been involved in a discussion of the proposed Canadian Meat Council, and generally speaking, has become a potent force in Maritime agriculture. From whatever angle it may be regarded, it appears as a practical, purposeful, successful and progressive farmers' co-operative organization. V



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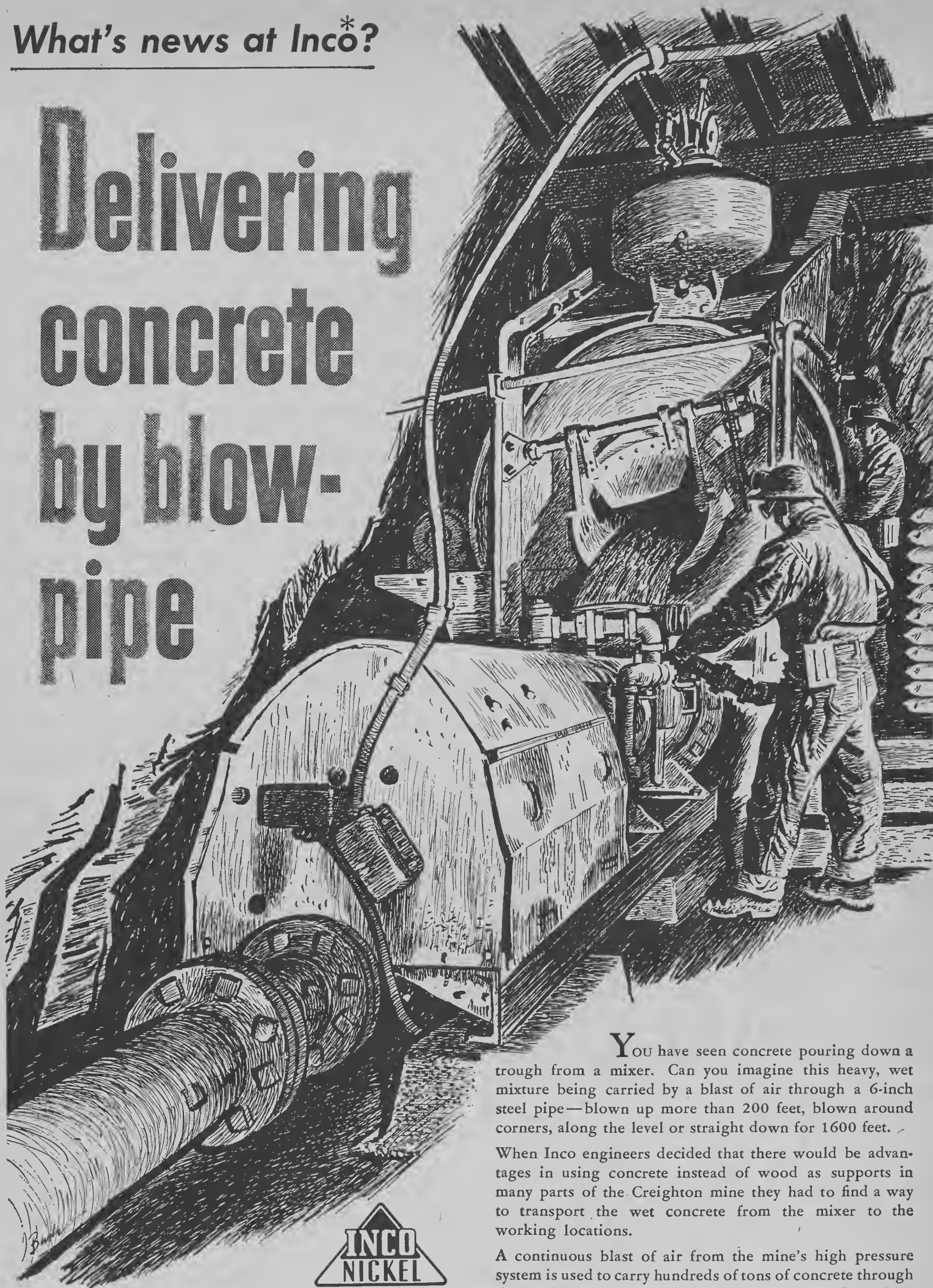
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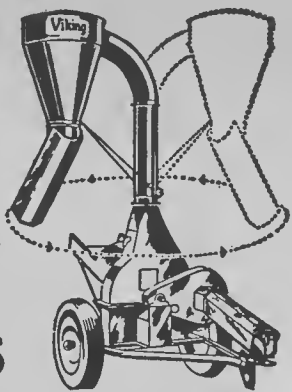
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Continued from page 9

Help came in the form of two farm scientists who dropped in at the farm. Dr. John Mitchell, head of the Soils Department at the University of Saskatchewan, and Dr. W. J. White, officer-in-charge of the Federal Forage Crops Laboratory in Saskatoon, went with Anklovitch and looked at the starved crops. "Hmm," said Dr. Mitchell, "we'll have to do something if you're going to farm this light land."

Anklovitch could not have agreed more, and Dr. Mitchell was as good as his word. Dr. White's comments are not recorded, but he, too, put his knowledge of farm science at the disposal of the Anklovitch family. Different kinds of fertilizer were drilled into the fields. "The way alfalfa grew when it got a good shot of sulphur would amaze you," said Murray Anklovitch. Other fertilizers also helped, but the key that unlocked the fertility door was sulphur. It helped the alfalfa grow; the growing alfalfa poured nitrogen into the soil; and the more nitrogen it accumulated, the more fertile the soil became. "This soil has really come into its own over the last seven or eight years," commented Mr. Anklovitch.

Many others have lent a hand since Drs. Mitchell and White made their original call. No one is more welcome at the Anklovitch farm than a qualified farm adviser. Drs. Mitchell and White

have continued experiments on the farm, and work has been done by the Federal Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon, the Ecology Department in the College of Agriculture at the University, as well as the Plant Industry Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Other farm experts have visited the farm, observed, commented, advised, and gone about their business. "If it weren't for working with these farm science people we'd be off the farm today," said Mr. Anklovitch.

THE annual bill for fertilizers is extremely large. Everything is fertilized. "You know, I really wouldn't want to farm a rich soil now," commented Murray. "By adding plant foods to this pine sand you know what you have in your soil and what the soil will grow." Strange words for a man who 12 years ago thought he was licked!

Alfalfa is the essential soil builder, and it is fertilized with varying amounts of lime, sulphur, ammonium phosphate (16-20-0), or triple superphosphate (0-0-51). Wheat is encouraged at seeding time, with 40 to 50 pounds of ammonium phosphate or ammonium nitrate (33-0-0). The most generally used fertilizer, applied to wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax crops, is ammonium nitrate at 40 to 50 pounds per acre. The addition of the correct fertilizers has been responsible for a change from submarginal farming—a life of quiet desperation—to farming a soil made highly productive.

With the exception of the alfalfa fields, Anklovitch summerfallows all his

fields every second year. This would appear contrary to best soil use for light land, and probably is, but he must compromise somewhat to permit the growing of his Registered Thatcher wheat, Exeter oats, Hannchen barley, Victory and Redwood flax and Antelope rye. He feels that he must plant these pure seed crops on fallow land to avoid infestation with volunteer grain from the previous crop. On this light soil, the moisture conserved by summerfallowing is also a help.

Erosion is no problem, even with the large proportion of fallow. The alfalfa, seeded and left down for four or five years, adds fibre to the soil.

Beware when the great God lets loose a thinker: then all things are at risk . . . Generalization is always a new influx of the divinity into the mind.—Emerson.

Also, unlike prairie farms, the fields on this farm are cut up by native bush. The 80 acres of alfalfa currently on the farm are in 11 different fields, ranging in size from one to 15 acres.

The small fields cut down wind damage over the erodible soils. More important, they assist in building up the yields of alfalfa seed. In many of the fields brush cutters knocked down the jack pine, but none was burned. Instead, it was pushed to the edges of the field and left in great ridges—ridges in which the softening, broken, tree trunks made an ideal home for alfalfa-tripping leaf-cutter bees.

The suggestion for the size and shape of the more recently cleared

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fields came from Harold McMann of the Federal Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon. The idea has paid off. Wild bee populations are adequate and those sets that have been light have been adversely affected by wet years, which reduced the flight of the bees. Over the past few years, acre yields of alfalfa seed have ranged from 100 to 1,000 pounds.

The alfalfa seed is also Registered. It is all Grimm, with the exception of one acre of elite Vernal, the new, fine-stemmed variety from the University of Wisconsin. The planting of Vernal this spring necessitated the purchase of a new combine. Anklovitch now virtually eliminates the danger of mixing pure seed by using one combine for wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax, a second one for Grimm alfalfa, and the third one for his Vernal. The Grimm and Vernal are being grown on contract with the Plant Industry Branch, Regina.

It was Professor L. H. Shebeski, then of the Field Husbandry Department, University of Saskatchewan (now head of the corresponding department at the University of Manitoba), that started Anklovitch into elite and foundation seed production. "I was talking to him at the Nipawin Agricultural Fair, in 1952, and he suggested to me that I grow some foundation Antelope rye," said Anklovitch. "I thought it was a good idea. I seeded foundation that fall. This year I have

58 acres of Antelope that looks good for over 40 bushels per acre to sell, and I have one acre of first generation." (Antelope is the superior fall rye developed by Dr. J. B. Harrington and his associates at the University of Saskatchewan.)

MUCH more could be written about Murray Anklovitch. His work with agricultural representative Jack Durrant and the grain and grasses committee of the Nipawin Agricultural Fair in establishing 4-H grain clubs would make a story in itself. So would his 180-tree, four-acre orchard, or his work as a director of the Saskatchewan Field Husbandry Association. His activity as president of the Railway Extension Association promoting the extension of the railway from Gronlid to The Pas would make another story. Something could be told, too, of his enthusiasm, perhaps borrowed from his forest ranger days, for hunting and fishing; his pleasure in playing the violin to the accompaniment of his wife at the piano; and his deep pride in his family.

The children also could tell an interesting story of the 4-H club work. Marlene (15), and Connie (13), spent five years as members of the local grain club, before they had to go away to high school. They did as Janice (9), did this year; her two-acre grain club project, made up of carefully isolated plots of wheat, oats,

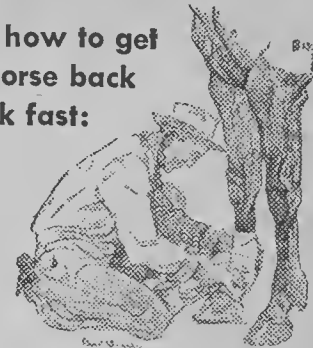
barley and flax, is her responsibility and hers alone. She buys the seed from her father, pays the cost of seeding herbicides and harvesting, and does her own weeding, roguing, account keeping and preparing of exhibits. She runs a charge account with her dad all summer, but he expects to be paid pretty smartly when she sells off her crop in the fall. "Not a bad arrangement either," the girls admit. Marlene and Connie made some money that way.

And a lot could be said about the cook. "I never have liked cooking," said Helen, though the family admit that their attractive mother is pretty handy with the skillet. The writer queried her about the report that she had run the small tractor with disk, harrow, packer and cultivator this past summer. "Well," she said, defensively, "I'd a lot sooner work in the field, than cook for one more man." She thought a minute. "On the other hand," she said, "when it comes to picking roots, I'd rather cook. And I'd as soon have a hired man as jerk weeds in the alfalfa fields." And wouldn't anybody!

That is how Murray and Helen Anklovitch, with hard work, shrewd judgment and good advice, have achieved prosperity on a sandy river-bank farm. If it reads like a "Who's who" in agricultural science in Saskatchewan, that is because it's the way the Anklovitches told it. V

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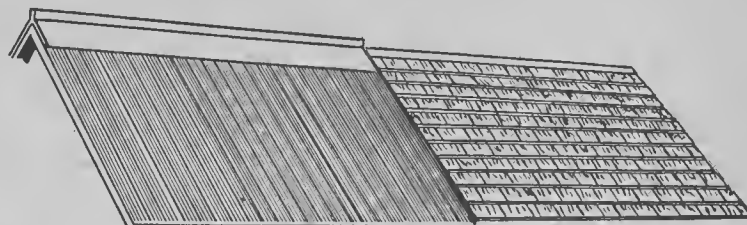
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Julie

Continued from page 14

and the 4-Fs. Charlie Strange had the asthma. The dances were no longer any fun. The boys, most of them younger than she was, had not been slow to realize their advantage. They were often impudent, ganging up and playing hard to get. It was a poor time in which to be growing up. The very young girls could wait; the older ones were already settled. But a girl just coming on—

She had turned her head and saw a very big young man coming toward her. He was not in uniform in any proper sense, but the clothes he wore were odds and ends of military gear—officers' pinks stuffed into combat boots, a khaki shirt open at the throat.

He drew up at her counter and regarded her out of scious, impersonal eyes. He did not smile. The face she saw might have been hewn out of granite. Just as her own eyes fell to the little appointment pads she thought of the young boys at the dances, and of their impudence. Her fingers trembled as she picked up a pencil and registered James Terral to see Dr. Newberry about a stomach disorder incurred while pulling out of a nose dive over North Africa.

When she looked up his eyes were still upon her. There was no twinkle in them, no banter, not even friendliness. It was as if, from a great distance, and soberly, he was studying her for some inscrutable reason of his own. She felt the warmth in her cheeks as she sent him on to await his turn.

SHE called his name eventually. He rose, nodded gravely, and disappeared out one of the many hallways, the big boots pounding. She did not see him leave the clinic. All patients presented themselves at the one entrance, but they could leave in many directions. She felt thwarted, in a way she had not experienced before; in a deeper way, as though she were being defeated in some essential core.

He came back, three days later. She smiled while hoping he could not see the distress she was having—in breathing, in controlling her fingers. She registered him and nodded him on. He did not move. She raised her eyes with real effort. His were unblinking upon her, but without the former distance. She saw that he was going to say something, and she waited breathless.

"You remember me?" he asked soberly. "From the last time?"

"Oh, yes."

"Are you married?"

She was startled by the abruptness, but not at all nonplussed by the direction of his thought. She found herself able to smile in a shy fashion as she said, "No, I am not."

"Engaged?"

She shook her head, still smiling.

"Would you go to the show with me tonight?"

"Why, I'd love it!"

He did not kiss her for nearly a month, and when he did there was no rush or fierceness. They were at her door disconcertingly silhouetted by the light which always burned over the plaque: J. W. Branden, M.D. She had just looked up at

him to say good night. His eyes held hers like a magnet, and his face was coming slowly toward her. She trembled. And then his big hands cupped her shoulder blades and drew her close. Their lips met gently, for a long time, while the world stood still and she forgot all about the light, and something more intoxicating than she had ever known before caused her heart to gentle in content.

Never in these recollections did she leave out the Legion Ball, given on New Year's Eve. Jim wore his uniform, the major's gold leaves glistening on the shoulder straps. He had been wearing an overcoat when he called to pick her up, so that her first good look at him was when she came out of the powder room and found him waiting.

He was tall and broad and unsmiling. Once again the face she saw might have been hewn out of granite. The wide mouth was thin, the cheek bones prominent, the dark eyes sober. His straight black hair was slicked severely back, and caught a sheen from an overhead chandelier. The thin line of his mouth relaxed when he saw her, and softness came to the dark eyes.

She thought of the impudent adolescents, grinning in smug awareness of their advantage; clustering in little knots and discussing whether to re-



"Let's not encourage her with prizes this year."

main stag or give some dame a break. Jim was beside her then, towering, and the orchestra struck up.

She told herself that she ought to be vivacious, leaning away from him, smiling up, chatting. Instead, she relaxed slowly and laid her cheek on his rolling chest, loving the rough feel of the cloth, loving him.

He told her his plans before he asked her to share them. The words did not come easily, partly because he was not too clear himself, and partly because he feared her disapproval.

"I feel I've had about enough," he said. "About all I can take. The world's gone nuts. I guess everyone has his little escapes. Do you know what I thought about, over there, when I waited my turn to go out again?"

"Tell me, Jim."

"Over in Montana there's a river called the Bitterroot. Dad and I used to go over there to fish. Away up toward the headwaters there are little ranches. Cattle. There are only the trees and the sky and the range land and the meadows. I thought how it

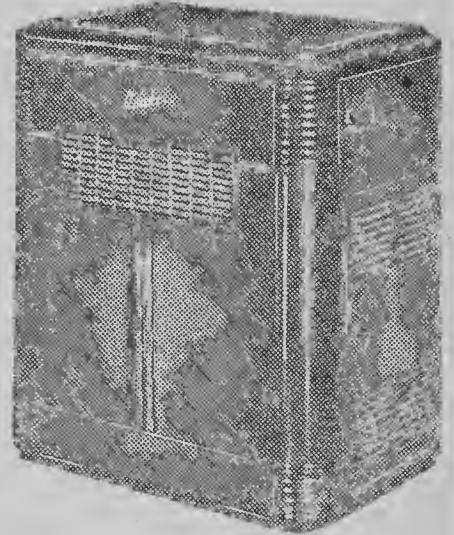
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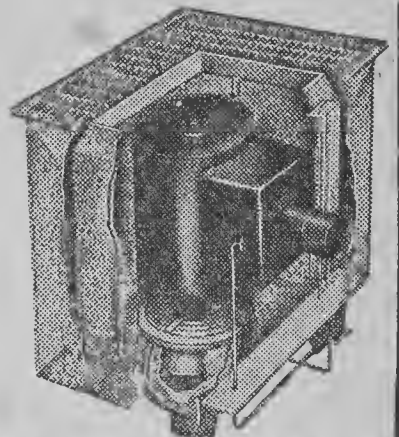
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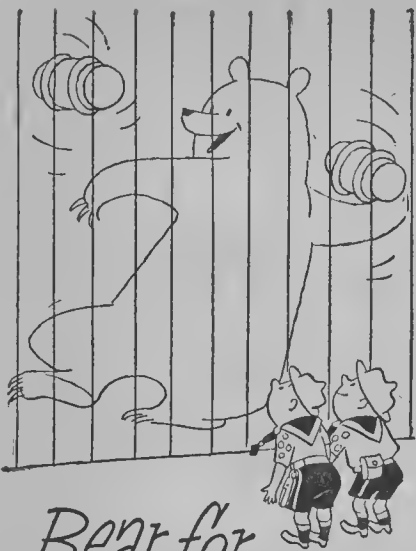
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would be to live off up there, where the birds would wake you of a morning and you would go out and look after your little herd."

"It sounds wonderful, Jim."

They were sitting side by side on a sofa. He put a thumb on her shoulder and turned her to face him. "Does it, Julie?"

"Oh, yes!"

"Because it's what I want. I've only been wanting to see if the docs can fix me up. They say I'll be all right." He paused and his eyes searched hers gravely. "Will you go with me, Julie?"

"Jim, I'll go with you anywhere!"

"It's pretty rugged up there. Wild. There won't be any neighbors, any conveniences. Sort of like pioneering. I wouldn't want you to go without knowing what you are letting yourself in for."

"Can't you see, darling? If *you* want it, I want it."

SHE still had no regrets, she told herself as she prepared to do the evening milking. She would have to take Bobbie with her down to the cow barn, but she was prepared for such an emergency. She had a little halter that circled his fat chest and looped up over his shoulders. Carefully she tied him in an empty stall, well away from the cows' heels, and settled to her work—pling-pling, pling-pling, pling-pling!

She had lost most of her worry for Jim. The radio had given out no more about Earless 'Arry, but if anything had happened to Jim they would have got word to her from the highway,

five miles down. Easy did it! You buckled down and did what was to be done, and the next morning you could laugh at your fears.

The forced hardiness receded a bit at twilight. There was always an hour at twilight when, even with Jim around, she felt lonely and apprehensive. The friendly day was leaving, making way for the imponderable night. Out of the shadows came a sense of pressing, as though the four-foots which inhabited the gulches and the peaks were venturing near to smell out this strange habitat of man.

She was safe inside. That she knew. The logs were big and firmly joined, the windows were high off the ground, the door was thick and effectively secured by a two-by-four bar that extended across it from jamb to jamb. The lamplight was mellow. Bobbie was asleep in the big homemade cradle. In a few hours Jim would be coming home.

The coyotes began just when she was debating whether to go to bed. There must have been a great many. Their yippings were not like the barking of a dog pack, measured and somewhat controlled. These sounds were shrill and strident and confused; choppy sounds issuing from tight throats, idiot sounds that had never learned control.

They were moving—from the tall peak to the north, and down into the draw, and out onto the semi-tableland to the east of the house. Bobbie stirred in his sleep, whimpered. She stepped over to him, shrinking as she passed the window. The whimpering

ceased as she rocked the cradle with her toe.

If the coyotes came down much nearer they might step in the bear trap. But it wasn't likely. Jim had told her about coyotes. It was practically impossible to trap them, extremely difficult to poison them, for they could detect the strychnine in meat. But they were cowards, she told herself, trying to fight off her nervousness.

Bears were not cowardly, but they seemed content to mind their own business. They were curious, but they were vicious only when hurt or contraried. The trap wouldn't likely do much good, since it occupied only a tiny spot, leaving plenty of room elsewhere for a bear to roam. But if it should happen to step right in that one place . . . Julie shuddered. She had seen the enormous black trap, a cruel thing. It was not anchored to a stake or to a tree. The chain was fastened to a three-foot pole. The idea was that the bear could drag along until the pole caught between two trees.

She hadn't been aware that the yipping of the coyotes had died down until they started up again. They were closer now, and the movement was more apparent. The calves were in the corral, and their mothers would gang up to protect them. There was no danger from that quarter. The thing to do, Jim had said, in case they got too close, was to step outside and fire the rifle. She wondered if she ought to do this now. The gun stood behind the door. She had never fired it but she knew how.

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The coyotes couldn't really hurt anything. They would soon drift on. They might go sooner if she put out the light. She rose and blew down the chimney. The room was instantly black. She preferred it so. But she gave up the idea of going to bed. She would be helpless in bed. Up and fully clothed, she felt more capable of taking care of herself.

EVENTUALLY she decided that she had better undress and appear to have been in bed when Jim came. He would be worried if he should suspect that she had waited up in stark wakefulness. She undressed in the dark and slipped on her pajamas; turned back the bedclothes and settled in her place, deliberately mussing the pillow. Then she got up, found her robe, and settled down to wait.

The coyotes had drifted on. Silence took their place. It was an unbroken silence, so vast and permeating as to appear tangible. There was no whisper of tires, the honk of no horns, the fall of no feet, but only nothingness, continuous and void. She must have dozed, she reflected as she started at Jim's knock on the door, for she had not heard the truck come up the basin.

"I'm coming!" she cried, pleased that he should find the house dark and the evidence of sleep in her eyes.

The big bar rested in notches on either side of the door. She lifted it out and stood it against the wall, dropped her hand to the thumb latch and flung the door wide. There was a shadow just outside, but Jim was not like himself. She remembered then

that he had not called out as he always did when coming home at night. Nor did he reach out and gather her to him, practically carrying her back into the house.

"Jim!" she cried. "Is something wrong?"

The shadow moved, stepped up onto the threshold, pushed into the room. She knew then that it wasn't Jim. It was as tall as Jim, but slighter. She closed the door automatically. A nervous shiver ran over her.

"A light," a man's voice said. "Make a light."

The voice told her that this was no one she knew—neither the Flathead who lived three miles down the basin, nor Lute Bragg who lived farther along, nor the man at the service station on the highway. A frightening possibility occurred to her. Something had happened to Jim, away off somewhere, and this stranger had come to break the news.

"Is Jim hurt? Tell me!"

"A light. Make a light."

She flew to the lamp on the table only to remember that the matches were over on a shelf back of the stove. She raced across and fumbled in the box. When she turned, the man was darkly silhouetted against the south window. He was beginning to put out his arms and grope about him, as if to feel his way about the room.

Her hand shook as she applied the match to the wick and reset the globe. She was conscious as she straightened that her robe was open and the pajama coat shamefully revealing. She clutched at herself and raised her eyes to him. He was dressed in

greasy brown coveralls that were much too short. A hunter's cap, made of corduroy, was pulled down on his head. The ear tabs which normally were tied on top had been loosed and now hung down over the sides of his head.

The face that looked out at her was the face of an ascetic and a scholar, the skin almost paper white and the temples narrow. The eyes were large and dark and unfathomable. They left her face and moved about the room—to the empty bed, the cradle, the curtain which she had strung across a corner of the room to provide closet space.

The wariness left him, as though he were satisfied with what he saw. "I need clothes," he said, the words coming with a low, tense urgency. As though they were already forthcoming, he pressed the heels of his palms against the corduroy cap and pushed it off his head.

HIS hair was black as a crow's wing, long and thick. For a second she was conscious only that something was wrong with his head, and then she realized what it was. The left ear was gone. The effect was strangely gruesome and abortive, more so than if it had been caused by a single eye. Julie felt her mind reeling. This was Earless 'Arry.

He was advancing toward the curtain. The hand he put up to draw it aside was long-fingered and narrow. His eyes fell on Jim's good suit but passed it over for a worn pair of trousers and a rumpled shirt. He glanced back over his shoulder at Julie as he loosed the coveralls at the

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GOOD YEAR

SUPER SURE-GRIP TRACTOR TIRES

neck and worked his way out of them so that they dropped to the floor. The trousers and the shirt were too big, but he donned them and made little tidying motions that rendered them passable.

Julie could only stand and stare. Her mind had cleared but her muscles were paralyzed. She was endeavoring to think what she ought to do. Any direct physical resistance was out of the question. She would be no match for him. But he had made no move against her. Perhaps he didn't intend any. She understood his need was of clothes. Passably clothed, he might escape detection. Maybe, after he had

outfitted himself, he would leave.

If she had only some way of protecting herself in case there was need of it! She thought of the gun then. It was standing against the wall by the door. She knew she could not employ it, could never point it at a human being and pull the trigger. But he might not know that. Just to have it and point it at him might be enough. She was wondering whether she could back toward it until she was near enough to whirl and grab it, when he turned and regarded her out of the dark inscrutable eyes.

He pulled them off her and allowed them to fall to something in his hand.

She felt a scream building up inside when she realized what it was. He had found her petticoat, the pink nylon with the ruffled skirt which Jim had given her. His long white thumb worried the fabric in a brooding way before he lifted his head and once again contemplated her from head to foot. She felt her fingers clutch the robe over her breasts, was pivoting to whirl toward the gun, when he allowed the garment to slip through his fingers and squared around to face her.

"Food," he said, pointing to his mouth.

He stepped to the door and stood

with his back against it while she poked up the fire in the stove and started to prepare him some bacon and eggs. Half paralyzed with fear though she was, she went about the task eagerly. Maybe if he had food, plenty of food, the tightness would leave him and she could get him out of the house.

His eyes fell on the rifle by the door and his hand dropped quickly to it. He left off watching her and went to one of the four straight chairs that stood around the table. He sat, gun across his knees, while he examined the magazine and found that the chamber was full of cartridges. A gleam began to supplant the sombre brooding of his eyes.

Julie was dismayed. Her one recourse had been taken away. The only hope now was that the food would soften him. She put a plate before him. It contained bacon, four eggs. She placed a loaf of her own baking beside it, and Jim's hunting knife. He sliced off a thick chunk and fell to it greedily. When she added a tall glass of sweet milk he did not look up, but presently he grasped the tumbler and drained it noisily. She refilled it.

He did relax near the end, slumping slightly, his sharp features turning complacent. She had never been called upon to exercise such self-control as was necessary to enable her to pitch her voice pleasantly and say, "Would you like something else?" But she managed it.

THAT was the course she had decided upon—to humor him, to act as though his presence were perfectly natural. There was nothing else to do now; the gun was lying across his knees.

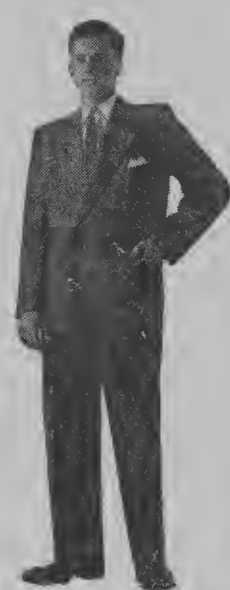
Her terror grew when he made no reply. He might not have heard her for all the response he made. He began to eye the hunting knife. He slid his hand over and closed upon it, began feeling over himself as if to find a pocket that would contain it. Julie knew then that she had been a fool to place the knife on the table. But she always did it with Jim; he didn't like any more cut off the loaf than was consumed at any one meal.

She heard a peculiar sound coming from somewhere outside and could not control a violent start, although Earless 'Arry did not move. He must have sensed a changing in her, for he glanced up sharply. When he saw her tense listening attitude, he sprang up, dropping the knife but clutching the rifle. The sound was repeated—a step, a small tinkling. Julie could not control the workings of her face. If it was Jim . . .

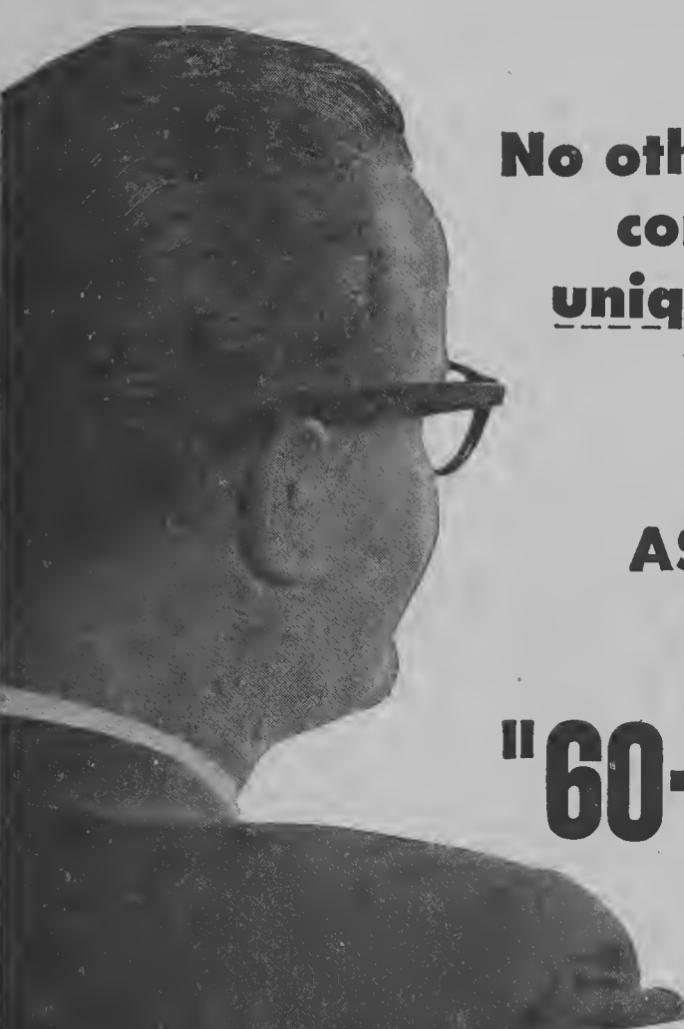
"What do you hear?" Earless 'Arry demanded sharply.

When her eyes remained on the window he rushed over, readying the rifle. "No!" she cried, and ran after him. It could be Jim, although she had not heard the truck. Maybe he had had a flat down the trail and walked on up. In the yellow light falling out the window she saw what it was. It was a bear dragging a trap. The animal grunted and snapped, jerked at the imprisoned foot.

Earless 'Arry turned slowly back to the room, craftiness on his narrow face. He secured the hunting knife, making for the door when Bobbie whimpered back in the far end of



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the room and waved his arms above the crib frame. The man stopped. Julie was between him and the child. He tried to look around her, found that impossible, and brushed her aside.

EARLESS 'ARRY approached the cradle on tiptoes and stood looking down, brooding. Very carefully he stood the gun against the wall. He looked about as if searching for a place to lay the knife. Not finding it, he turned the blade flat across his palm and began to stoop.

"No!" Julie cried, and flung herself upon him.

She might have been only an irritating wasp, so lightly did she deflect him from his purpose. Earless 'Arry continued to stoop. He slid his hands under Bobbie and lifted him up. The child's eyes grew large and round and solemn but he made no outcry.

Earless 'Arry backed to the chair he had recently vacated and sat down carefully. He adjusted the boy on his lap and extended an exploring finger in the direction of the small chin. He became aware of the knife in his hand and dropped it impatiently on the table.

Julie could only stand and watch. Minutes passed. The tableau held. The only mitigating circumstance was that the madman displayed no inclination to harm the child. Maybe if she just let him alone, Julie told herself, not disturbing him . . .

She thought of Jim then. Jim would be coming any minute now. But the wild surge of relief passed into overwhelming anxiety. Earless 'Arry would not know that Jim was her husband, coming home from the milk run. He would think that his pursuers had



"I don't see what fun Mom and Dad ever got out of hayrides."

tracked him down. He might be warped, insane, but he possessed some shrewdness, as witnessed by his understanding of the gun as a means of protection. He knew enough to want to avoid recapture. When Jim came, he would . . .

She managed in a choking voice, "I am expecting my husband back soon."

He did not move in any way.

"What I mean is, when he comes he will not be after you. He has been away with the milk truck. I expect him back any time now."

Bobbie had fallen asleep, was leaning snugly back. Earless 'Arry was absorbed.

Julie pressed hard against her breast in an effort to still her heartbeat. He didn't act as if he had heard a word she said. Maybe that was part of his

madness, that he could not pick up the meaning of words.

She threw up her head. Far down the basin she heard the rumble of the truck. Jim was coming. He must be warned. She began to edge toward the door. Earless 'Arry looked up, said "no," and jerked his head back for her to return.

She heard the truck stop, and Jim's whistle. She wanted to scream. But suddenly she knew that the only way was silence. The door was unbarred. Let Jim come in. Let him see. He would know what to do.

He knocked, called, "It's me, Julie," and lifted the latch. Then he was big

in the doorway. He got only so far as to say, "I got back a mite . . ." before his eye took in everything — Julie, white-faced and shaking all over, the man in the chair cuddling Bobbie close.

Julie knew then that she would be safe forever—with Jim. He betrayed no agitation. He merely took a few steps forward in a cruising way. Earless 'Arry said, "S-s-sh!" and placed a long white finger across his lips. Jim stopped and nodded. Without taking his eyes off the madman he said to Julie, "He's deaf. I heard all about him. He got himself pickled and wrecked his car, killing his wife and

little boy. He's hipped over little boys."

He saw the knife, and moved a step nearer, close enough to forestall any unexpected act of the madman. "It's tough to ask this of you, Julie, but there's no other way. I'll take over here. You get in the truck and go down to the highway. They'll telephone for you."

She was already throwing a coat over her shoulders. "Yes, Jim." Her voice was surprisingly steady and strong, although there were tears on her lashes. Jim was her man. There wasn't anything — anything! — she couldn't do so long as she had Jim.

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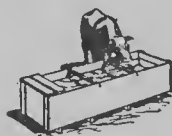
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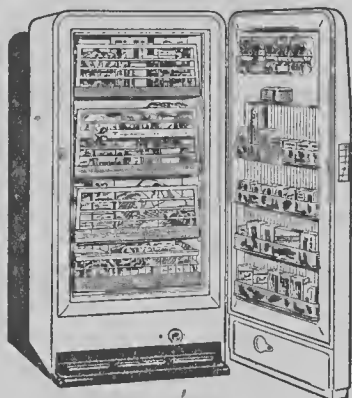
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MANITOBA

The Starting Day

Continued from page 8

He said heavily, "Well, I got sore! What he does about the kid is his own business, but asking me to handle the scare-off job— He reminded me I'd promised to do the favor, so I said okay, I'd do it. But I refused to take his ninety beeves on shares, like we'd talked about before."

"Heh?"

"Yeah, I know it was all pretty well settled, but I changed my mind. Maybe I'm a fool, not wanting a partnership. But there have been other things I haven't liked about Fenton. When he showed me that kid's letter and asked me to be the family bouncer, why, I just didn't like Ralph Fenton well enough to continue dealings with him. He and I are finished as of today."

"Good for you!" cheered Bessie, and a lovely light shone in her eyes.

Cob Riley paid no heed, engrossed about the problem of his new ranch that would not have a single head of stock to graze its rich pasture. He scowled at Jim Munn's letter as Bessie went away to wait on a new patron. The long wail of a train whistle came faintly to his ears and Cob stood up. The girl walked to the door with him.

"Hope you understand about celebrating. I just don't seem to be in the mood," Cob mumbled an apology. "Nothing much to celebrate about a ranch that's bare of cattle."

Bessie's smile was understanding and her eyes had that special look again.

"I'm glad your on your own, with no strings holding you to Fenton. We could celebrate that, Riley."

"Well, maybe! Right now, the thing that's got me worried is the time I gotta spend with this wet-eared kid before I shove him on the return train."

Bessie's gaze sharpened.

"Don't blame the boy for your bust-up—it's not his fault. And bring him here. I'm off duty at noon, but I'll stay at the cafe and we three can eat together. He'll be hungry."

"How'll I break the news to him?"

"Fifteen isn't very old. Don't hurt him any more than you have to," she said softly. "Right now you're mad at Fenton. Take it easy with the boy, Riley."

COB drove to the station. There was only one youngster among the passengers who got off, and he was the last to leave the train. He was a freckled red-head with a short crew cut, small for fifteen years. There was a solemn cast to his features that made him seem older. He was obviously uncertain and worried about his reception. Eagerness pushed the worry aside when he saw the saddle horses tied to the rail and the brand-lettered ranch trucks nearby. The lad looked about him and at the people, a half-smile ready to become the real thing if anyone noticed him. Cob's tall, lean figure halted a yard or two before him.

"You're Jim Munn?"

"Yes, sir! Are you my Uncle Ralph?"

"I'm Cob Riley, and I was sent to meet you. Let's have your suitcase and we'll park it in the jeep over here."

"I can carry it, sir."

"Fine, fine. Just put it in the back, alongside that other bag. Ahhh—have a good trip?"

"Oh, sure. I'm awfully glad to get here, though. Is the XY a big ranch, Mr. Riley?"

"Yeah, the XY's one of the biggest in the whole Grassland district."

"Geel! That's swell! D'you think Uncle Ralph will have an extra horse he'd let me ride, now and then?"

"Ummmm! Wait, Jim; don't climb in. We'll leave the jeep here and go take a gander at the town, eh?"

He waved a hand at the jumbled white planks of the stockyards, the towering red grain elevators, the main street fronting on the railroad tracks with brick, stucco and frame buildings assorted along the row.

"Well—okay." The youngster looked old again as his blue eyes levelled on the man. "Please, sir—could you tell me how my uncle feels about me coming here?"

Cob turned away, pretending to examine a soft back tire. Now was the time to speak out; now was the moment to spill the bad news. But Riley had seen the half-concealed fear in the boy, and remembering Bessie's "take it easy, Riley," said offhandedly:

"Your uncle isn't too well just now, Jim. Nothing serious, y'know. So I came to meet you instead of him."

Inwardly he berated himself for the deception. The boy readily accepted the half-truth and became immediately concerned about Fenton's health.

"Shouldn't we hurry out to the ranch, then, and never mind looking at the town?"

"Oh, no. Lots of time, kid! Let's start over yonder at Bert's Saddlery."

The lad could not resist that lure. He was fascinated by the pale tan stock saddles on display, one with gleaming silver mountings and bridle to match. Also in the window were plaited quirts and tooled leather cuffs, rowelled spurs and coiled lariats shining yellow-white with newness. Jim asked many questions. How long was a lasso rope?; how large a loop was formed before making a throw?; could Cob spin a rope like a rodeo cowboy? Evidently he had read many western yarns and had gleaned the understanding that making a horse comfortable was more important than loading it with fancy trappings. He wanted Cob's assurance on that point.

"That's right," Cob nodded. "Speaking of trappings, come along to Jayne's Store. They've got a model in the window dressed like a movie cowboy. Look there!"

Jim eyed the white stetson and embroidered silk neckerchief, the tailored shirt with its fancy stitchings and pockets. The leather chaps had Mexican coins spaced along the flared edges, while the glossy boots had been handmade.

"Nice looking duds," he commented politely.

"Just for looks, though!" Cob replied. "If a fellow wore such gaudy stuff out on the range, he couldn't blame the steers for spooking right off the ranch."

Then Cob lapsed into silence, thinking about his own new place. There was a neat house on a knoll with a view of the river, a long sweep of valley that ended in the purple-shadowed Rockies to the west. Bitterness came again as he thought of the empty range. A herd of ninety cows would have started him off nicely, the

increase to be split with Fenton who was short of grass. Soon the young stock would carry his own brand, and then— The man glanced sharply at the boy, but his anger was directed at Fenton. As Bessie said, it wasn't Jim Munn's fault.

Abruptly he dismissed the soured dream, and strode toward Jayne's store. "This is real ranch stuff in this window, kid. Blackleg vaccine, de-horning clippers, and cow medicines are all part of ranching."

The lad had fidgetted during Riley's brooding spell. He was becoming definitely uneasy and ignored the window display to ask:

"When're we going out to Uncle's ranch, sir?"

There was an appeal in those candid eyes that Cob could not deny. He stood staring at the vaccines, not really seeing them, but unable to look at the boy right then.

"I'm afraid I've got bad news for you, Jim."

The youngster expelled a sigh, then blurted out: "Uncle Ralph— He doesn't want me, eh?"

"That's the gist of it, kid. Here's a hundred dollars he told me to give you. He wants you to go back to the Home

"No! If he won't let me work for it, I don't want a dime."

"What about train fare back to the Home?"

"I got my own money. I worked for people living near the Home, mowing lawns and things like that. I got enough to pay my way."

Cob's face wore its first honest smile since he'd left Fenton. His brown hand dropped onto a thin shoulder in a comradely way, and they halted on the outskirts of the little town.

"We got the same kind o' independence, Jim, and we're in the same fix. I threw away a chance at a bagful of money this morning, just because the color of it didn't suit me. That's how you feel about this hundred-dollar hand-out. I like you for it. Look, son! Let's go put on the feed bag at the Regal Cafe down there, and while we're at it, we can fix up an envelope to leave with the banker to hand back your uncle's wad. Okay by you?"

The boy stared truculently up at Cob, though his lips were trembling.

"You're not mad at me, are you?"

"No, sir. It's— Well, it's just that I don't want to be a bother. I can go back to the station and wait for the train."



"I don't know . . . one a day keeps the doctor away, or somethin'."

on the next train, then you can go live at that farm you wrote about. It's— Well, he's leaving the XY for a long holiday, see, so he wouldn't be around to look after you."

The boy stared at the vaccines, his hands rammed into his side pockets, ignoring the bills in Cob's outstretched hand.

"I shouldn't have written him. I knew it was just a chance, but— A fellow sort of wants to be with his family, and Uncle Ralph's the only family I got left and that's why I wrote."

"Yeah!" Cob said, very softly.

"I don't want his money!" The freckled, old-young face flamed red with sudden rage. "Give it back to him!" And he strode off down the street with Cob following.

"Hold on, kid. I won't be seeing Ralph Fenton for a long spell. He's leaving on holidays, like I said, and— Anyway, I don't work for him now. Maybe you better just hang onto this money."

"Plenty of time for that. I'll admit Jim, I didn't like this job of news-breaking, and perhaps didn't do it very well. Now it's over, we can stop playing window games and do what we want. Let's go eat!"

"I am hungry, Mr. Riley."

"Call me Cob, Jim."

"Okay, Cob."

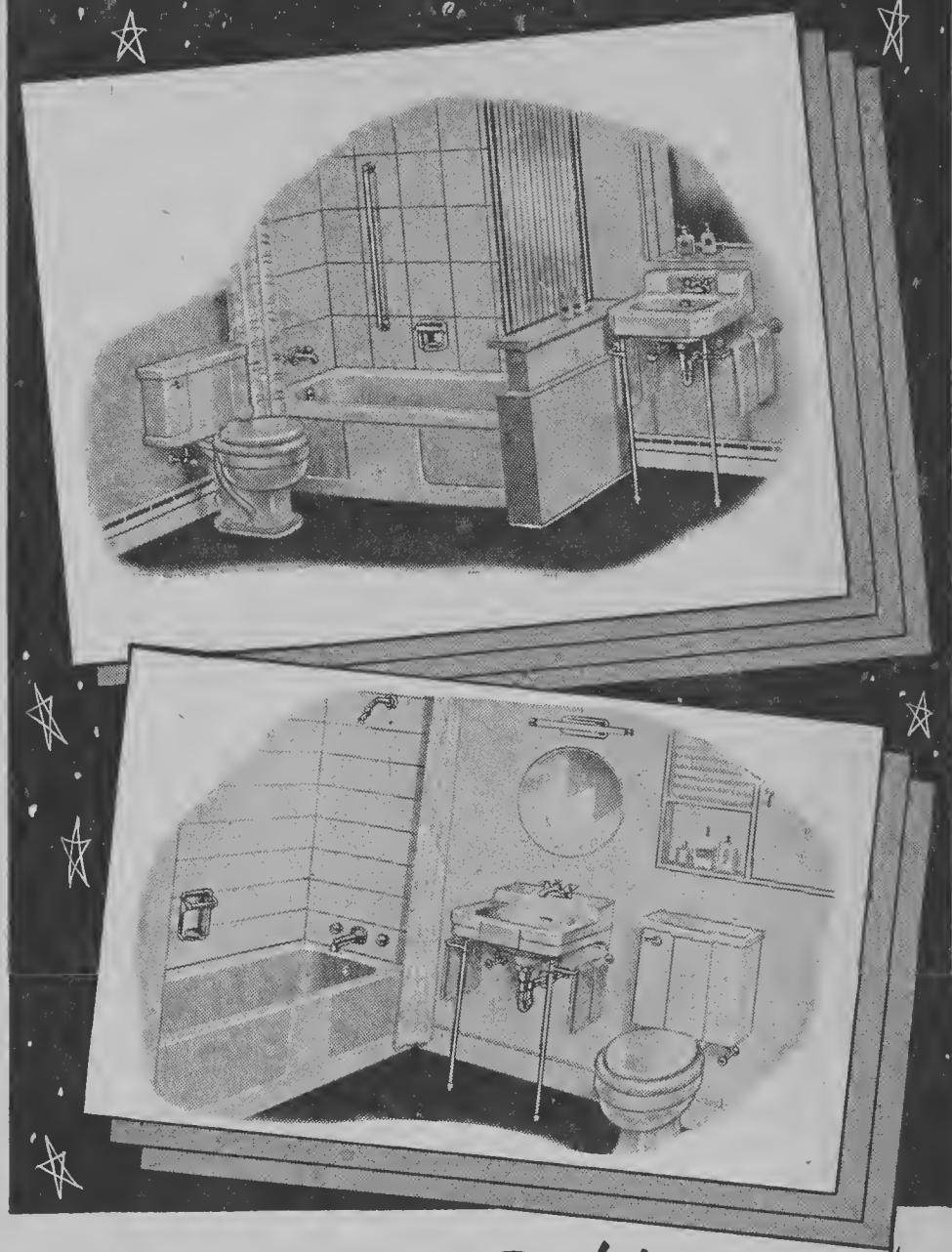
BESSIE MATTHEWS was waiting for them. The cafe was well filled with noon-hour patrons, but she'd leaned a chair against the back booth to reserve it.

"Jim, I'd like you to meet Miss Matthews. Bessie, this is Jim Munn, and he's real hungry."

She didn't need to be told that the stricken-faced boy knew about Fenton's brush-off. Bessie's handclasp was firm and friendly, her smile just right. Then she disappeared briefly through the kitchen door and came back with three bowls of soup.

"I've ordered steaks all around, with apple pie for dessert and ice cream to fancy it up."

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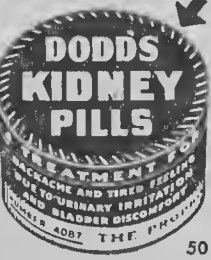
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Jim demonstrated that his hunger was real and urgent. Cob picked fussily at the food, mulling over the upsets of the morning. Bessie plied Jim with extras, making sure everything was to his liking. Then, when dessert was finished, the small talk ended and Cob said:

"Jim, Bessie here is a special friend and she knows about the whole set-up. Jim won't touch Fenton's hundred dollars, Bessie, and he wants an envelope to leave at the bank for his uncle."

"It's the best way," she nodded, and went to fetch the stationery. The boy scribbled a large, heavy-pencilled "No Thanks," and signed his name on a sheet of paper, folded it around the bills, then tucked them into a long envelope addressed to Mr. Ralph Fenton, of XY Ranch.

"I was hoping—I've always been crazy about cowboy stuff, y'understand. But I guess it won't matter too much. Mrs. Parks, the matron at the Home, knows people on a farm where they can send me. She said they're okay."

There was a little silence.

"Tell us about life at the Home," Bessie said. "Did they treat you good?"

"Oh, sure, I didn't like it at first, when mother died five years ago and I was jammed in with a hundred other kids. And I guess I felt pretty lonely about being an orphan."

"Mrs. Parks is a nice lady and Mr. Beatty, my dormitory man, is a good guy. We have school rooms right at the Home." The quaver left his voice as he continued, as if to give himself and his two new-found friends assurance. "After school, there's sports and handicrafts and time for doing what you want. Older fellows like me chore around and help keep things tidy. There's some fun, too. I have—I've had a good time at the Home and I'll sure miss it."

Another silence. Bessie's arm was on the back of the seat; her hand dropped lightly onto his shoulder. "Riley was an orphan, too. He knows how you feel about such things."

Cobb had a little trouble clearing his throat. "It wasn't the same as Jim's case. I went to live with an aunt in the city. She had a large family of her own, but somehow, she found room for me and I didn't miss my folks too much. Not until auntie died. Then I was on my own. I was about your age, Jim."

"Did you go to a Home?"

"No, I became an errand boy for a grocery store. Later, I was promoted to counter hopping. I didn't like it much, because I wanted to be outdoors on a ranch."

"Just like me," Jim said, grinning wryly at them. "Well, I guess a farm is a sort of small-sized ranch, so it'll be okay." Then his bravado faltered; he looked across the table at Cob and asked: "Is it pretty hard, getting to know new folks at a strange place?"

Cob cast around for something to say, gave up, and mutely appealed to Bessie.

"We're new folks to you, Jim," she said. "You got to know us easy enough, didn't you?"

"Oh, but—Ranch country people are always friendly. It's the western way, they say."

"Farm people are westerners, too," Bessie countered.

"Yes, I know." Jim's fingers traced out the XY brand on the envelope containing the money. "I'd kinda counted on Uncle Ralph. I wrote him four letters during the year. He didn't exactly answer them, but he sent me a swell cowboy belt for Christmas. Here it is!" He stood up and proudly displayed the prize, then slumped on the seat again. "I'd built pretty strong on him letting me work on the XY."

Cob said: "Wish I knew a rancher who needs a chore boy, Jim. Maybe I could ask around and write you later on, eh?"

"Maybe you could do better than that, Riley—if you really mean it."

"What're you driving at, Bessie?"

HER cheeks flushed pink under Cob's searching gaze and suddenly her words came out in a rush: "Well, I got some real news for you. It isn't that I want to interfere at all, but you've talked a lot about that Grassy River spread—about the nice white house on the knoll and all the ranch talk about sowing cover crops early this fall. That's why you particularly needed the



"No . . . that doesn't mean you!"

winter grazing herd that fizzled out, and all those plans for a big herd later on, eh?"

His smile was rueful: "That's why! But I've lost my chance on the graze-herd for this year and the extra cash to help me along until I start my own stuff. Now I've got to forget the spread until I can save up. I'll go get a job somewhere for the time being."

Bessie looked gleeful: "That's where my news comes in—and don't go thinking I'm an interfering biddy. Remember Will Starrat, the bank manager and those two farmers in here when you first came this morning? The tall farmer was Bob Morse from South Valley, and the other man's his neighbor. I heard them talking about poor pasture conditions and the dry summer, and something about trouble with cattle grazing. It didn't matter much to me when I first heard it, but Will Starrat joined up with them after you left. And that's when I heard them tell the banker that they needed an experienced cattleman who had range to spare."

She blushed again. "Cob, I don't go around telling your private business, but Starrat—Well, he'd overheard you and I talking and asked me if you'd really left Fenton. I thought it wouldn't hurt to say you were on your own and the grazing deal with Fenton was all off. That's when Mr. Starrat began asking me some real pointed questions about your ranch, and I told him he'd have to see you—but I did gossip a little about all the experience you've had with cattle. Starrat turned to Bob Morse and said: 'Cob Riley could be the very man you're looking for. He's a worker and his reputation is solid. We've got his account and can vouch for him up to the hilt.'"

"Well, Cob, I got called away just then, but before they left the cafe,

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Starrat came to me and explained a bit. Bob Morse has to go east on business and will be away until spring. A neighbor is going to look after his land, but can't take the herd because of poor pasture. Morse has a hundred head. Starrat wants you to call at the bank right after lunch hour; Morse is to be there around 2:30 to meet you. I told Mr. Starrat that you'd be making your own decisions and I had no right to spill any beans about your affairs. And he said: "Tell Riley that if he wants a grazing contract, Morse is prepared to offer him a fine deal." It's up to you, now. If you're willing to take on the herd, you can start ranching right away. That's why I mentioned that maybe you might be able to use someone for the chores."

She glanced at Jim Munn, who was looking from one to the other and trying to fathom the business talk. Cob leaned both arms on the table and expelled a long-held breath.

"I know Morse's cattle—they're good. What a day! I'm sure glad I had you, as my backer, in here, Bessie, and I'll go see Starrat at once." Then he nodded, a grin spreading across his face as he turned to the boy. "How about working for me, Jim? Looks like I'll have a steady herding job for you, and there's an extra horse just about the right size for you. Want to try it?"

"Gee, whilicans! Sure!" His young voice cracked a little, as he added. "You really want me, sir?"

"Call me Cob, friend. Sure I want you! We've hit it off pretty good today, and I think you've got the makings of a top hand."

BESSIE warned that there would be details to settle, about Jim working for Riley. "Won't you have to write the matron and tell her how things have changed here?"

"Oh, yes!" The boy agreed. "Mrs. Parks will need to know about you, Cob. The Home keeps strict tabs on us. I'm not really on my own until I'm seventeen or eighteen." Then the freckled face clouded over. "One thing might hurt. There's a rule about the Home sending us to a place where there's a family. They say it's to give us kids a taste of real home life, see? They won't let us go to a bachelor or to any fellow who just wants a free farm hand."

"Don't fret about that. You'll be paid," said Cob. He was looking at Bessie. This time he saw the special light in her eyes and there was an answering glow in his. Her smile became beautiful, and suddenly Cob felt he could handle any situation that came his way.

"I'll go to see Starrat first. There's the grazing business to attend to, and I'll get the banker to give me a character reference to send your matron, Jim. I'll go get another from Reverend Jones, too. As a matter of fact, Bessie and me have a special reason to call on the parson this very evening. Isn't that so, girl?"

She looked radiantly happy as she whispered: "Anytime you say, Cob Riley."

The man stood up, tall and proud. "I'll go attend to the details, then. You stay here, Jim, and Bessie'll help you write to the matron. If things work out the way it looks now, young fellow, you've found yourself a real home there on our Grassy River Ranch."

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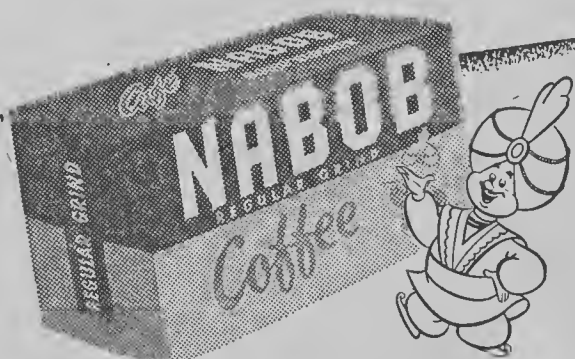
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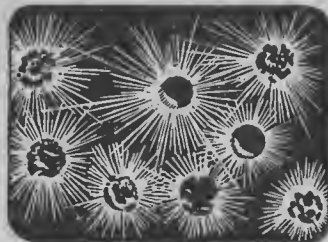
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The Countrywoman

Sewing Pattern

*Glittering, silent, needles of the snow
Sew the smooth winter cover for the land;
The bright steel moon, where zig-zag fenceposts go
Trims linen field with shadow cross-stitch band.*

*Glinting rains print deeply, as the winter wanes,
Designs from which seamstress sun will soon evolve
Embroidery of wheat. Vines, 'round fresh-shone
panes,
Stitch a spring sampler as the days revolve.*

*The woman sees from the window, as she seams,
Fields worked with gold thread as the season bends;
Trees featherstitched with bronze. She sews, and
dreams*

Of the new life, new joy, to come as autumn ends.

*Her fingers dance, the needle sings below
On the little gown, white as next winter's snow.*

—ANNE MARRIOTT.



Savings in Human Life

IN the last half century, doctors now tell us, the expected span of life for human beings on this continent has been extended by 20 years. The average life-expectancy of children born in 1905 was about 50. Today it is about 70 years. Science has played an important part, as have public health measures in preventing the premature death of infants and the young, and in the control of communicable diseases.

Though much has been accomplished, much remains to do in the further saving of child life from death or attending handicaps from such diseases as diphtheria and whooping cough, which respectively in Canada for 1953 numbered: 132 cases with 15 deaths; and 9,387 cases with 134 deaths. Both of these childhood afflictions can be prevented completely or their severity greatly alleviated by today's immunization procedures.

To bring home this realization to parents, the Health League of Canada has sponsored an annual National Immunization Week for the past 12 years, usually held around the first week of October. Canada's Minister of National Health and Welfare, Hon. Paul Martin, in an opening message this year remarked that: "It is strange—and heart breaking, that almost 20 years after the introduction into this country of widespread immunization that there are still Canadian children dying from diphtheria and in greater numbers from the effects of whooping cough."

"Be wise! Immunize!" was the 1954 slogan adopted by the Health League of Canada. Parents are reminded that there are a few simple safety measures to be taken to guard against childhood's killing diseases: whooping cough, diphtheria, lock-jaw and smallpox—and that help is as close as your family doctor, or the local public health clinic—both during the special week from September 26 to October 2 and every week of the year.

Warning is given that the youngest children are the most vulnerable to disease. Infants should be immunized against such mentioned diseases by the time they are from three to six months old. And booster doses should be administered during pre-school and school years, in order to keep their guard up against these notorious child killers.

During 1953 in Canada there were no reported cases or deaths from smallpox. Among the provinces, in regard to diphtheria Quebec had the highest number: 70 cases and 8 deaths; Alberta stood next with 24 cases and 3 deaths; Ontario and British Columbia each had 8 cases, with 2 deaths in the latter. Newfoundland had 3 cases and 1 death; Nova Scotia, 6 cases and 1 death. In number of cases Saskatchewan 5, Manitoba 4, New Brunswick 3, and

Points to note in Canada's progress toward better health safeguards — in the proper Christmas mood — a contributor's tribute to a familiar old kitchen feature

by AMY J. ROE

Prince Edward Island 1—all recording no deaths from diphtheria.

To read today the story of early immigration to, and settlement of Canada in the 19th century is to be appalled by the suffering and loss of human life in those days. A short item in the Saskatchewan Health News of July, 1954, noted: In 1832 there were 2,208 cholera deaths in Quebec city—one-tenth of the total population were victims. Also: concurrently with the arrival of European immigrants during the years from 1847-1848, at least 25,000 Irish immigrants died on their arrival in Quebec city, cholera and other plagues prevailed at this famous Canadian seaport.

Canada has had an influx of over a million immigrants since the last world war. Thousands of Canadians have done war service, travelled on business or pleasure to foreign distant lands, some still beset with disease plagues. Thanks to immunization and other control measures we have steadily built up safeguards to the health of our own people. Through World Health Organization we have contributed men, materials and money to the saving of human life and health in countries less developed, and lacking both knowledge and skill in preventing disease.

In Tune with Christmas

EACH year seems to evolve its own special pattern or mood for the celebration of Christmas. It may vary with family and individual circumstances. With some there is sadness because of loss or bereavement. With others there is gladness because of the establishment of a new home, the arrival of a child, the holding of a family reunion. In still others there is the exciting stir of young folks and their friends to quicken the family circle.

Sometimes it is difficult to get into the proper mood for honoring this—the greatest Christian festival. We may be dismayed with the rampant commercialization of the season; obsessed with the many extra activities, dinners, school and church concerts and parties, and so many added home duties that our spirits are weighed down. In the secrecy of our hearts or even aloud we may wish that the whole thing would be over and done with and we could settle down into regular routine again.

Then we let our memory range over Christmases of other years: during the depression years; those marked by the world war and those in the decade since its close. We remember perhaps one particular Christmas, marked by some happening which will long remain in our minds. Was it of a joyous or saddened family gathering; the arrival or departure of a loved one from or for a distant city or far country? Or does that deeply etched memory center around some individual quite outside our immediate family circle, outside our community?

Our social patterns of living are changing rapidly. The motor car and airplane transport us distances at a speed that would have amazed our grandparents. Yet our dependency for personal happiness upon our family and friends remains constant. The poor, the lonely, the estranged, and the bereaved, are not far from our door. Press, radio, a magazine or a book may bring to our attention some dramatic story of kindness; some need met; and our hearts are stirred. We say, that this truly is in the proper Christmas spirit. The richness of church service of special Christmas music floods our senses and we feel anew good will to man dominating our thinking,

warming and kindling our spirit. We have caught a little of the essence of the Day.

From your memories of past Christmases does one stand out because of some such incident? Does its story turn around a particular person or event? We would like to have a few such true stories in as short a form as is possible to tell them—say from 300 to 500 words. Send them in to The Countrywoman, not later than November 8, 1954. We would like to make a selection of the best to use in the December issue of The Country Guide.

The Old Wood Stove

by IRIS ALLAN

GRADUALLY, the old wood stove is on its way out. Who will mourn its going? Yet for me there comes a certain nostalgia, when I recall memories of this important and necessary feature of the kitchen in our home. It was the pulsing "heart" of the room.

It had a variety of uses in our large kitchen. To it, we children hurried on coming in from the cold outdoors. We would run to the stove and spread our hands over it to warm them. How cozy it felt! Cold feet were easily remedied, for we would open the oven door and sit on a chair with our feet thrust inside the oven. No matter how the wind howled or how low was the temperature outside, the kitchen was always warm. Wet mitts, moccasins and socks were set on top of the warming oven of the old wood stove. They would be dry for school the next day.

We had our baths near the stove, when we were very young. Mother would lift the heavy kettle from the stove and pour the hot water into the tub. After a thorough soaping and scrubbing, we were placed on a chair close by the stove and rubbed with a warmed towel. We sat close to the stove to dry our hair, a long process in the days before girls bobbed their hair. Later we did our homework at the kitchen table.

If we were coming down with a cold, mother sat us by the stove, while she applied mustard plasters and prepared hot lemonade before we were popped upstairs and into bed. Often we carried with us to those colder regions, a hot water bottle filled from the kettle that sang cheerfully on the back of the stove.

We were not subjected to the then popular sulphur-and-molasses spring tonic treatment. My mother had her own manner of giving us sulphur. She was convinced that it kept germs away from the nose and throat. She would spread it on the top of the hot stove. I can see those blue dancing sulphur flames yet. Each child in turn was made to lean over and inhale the fumes. Choking and coughing we would take large gulps of the smelly, hot fumes. Doctors today doubtless would laugh at such strange proceedings. I, for one, can vouch that the fumes were strong enough to keep almost anything away.

Coming in with friends, from skating, we gathered around the stove to make toast and hot cocoa. Its heat turned our cheeks scarlet. We would make fudge there, on a cold Sunday afternoon or evening. This was for us a great occasion. The sugar and other ingredients had to be apportioned just so. We couldn't turn the heat down; we simply moved the pot further back on the stove.

Mother's breadmaking was centered around that old stove. The dough-mix would be set to rise close by, but not too close in case it became too warm. Formed into rounded loaves, the filled bake-pans were set near the stove for the third and final rising. When the proper time for baking approached, the firebox would be piled high with wood, which had been brought in from the shed by my brother and deposited in the large woodbox. At the right moment the pans of loaves were slipped into the oven. When golden brown the loaves emerged from the dark cavern of the oven, a delightful aroma of freshly baked bread filled the kitchen and wafted through the other rooms. (Please turn to page 68)

Fish . . . viewed from a fishing camp and by a fisherman's family

by
LILLIAN
VIGRASS

"MY most vivid memories of my mother are of her working over the kitchen stove, preparing meals for a crowd," said Mrs Margaret Josephson of Gimli. "There were twelve children and my parents, fourteen in all, in our family, and there was always extra lodgers as well. We had a stopping place in the early days in Manitoba."

Settlers, fur traders, men from the Hudson's Bay posts and others travelling through the Arnes area stopped for meals or a night's lodging at the Sigurdson home. They were people of every nationality, every walk of life. They came by canoe, tug or steam boat, or over trails on foot, by oxcart, dog sleigh or, later on, with horses. Often they could time their journey to arrive in time for a meal at the home beside the lake and bordering the lonely road that wound its way through the rough country among the lakes of northern Manitoba.

At the stopping place a traveller was sure of rest and food for himself and his animals. Usually he carried his own bedroll, and if he arrived at night, he slept wherever space was available. After a hearty breakfast at dawn he was on his way again to Selkirk and the end of the railroad, or to return further inland and home.

Margaret Josephson's father, Stefan Sigurdson, came to Manitoba in the fall of 1875 with the second wave of Icelanders. Shortly afterward he met a girl who had also come out from Iceland and who was then working in Winnipeg. They were married and settled at Arnes, an Icelandic settlement, on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, 70 miles north of Winnipeg.

With as many as 30 or 40 extra people to feed any day there was plenty of hard work for the Sigurdsons. The nearest store was miles away. Staple foods, bought in the bulk, were brought in once or twice a year from Winnipeg or Selkirk. As for the rest the Sigurdsons had to find their own supply. Animals were raised and butchered on the farm. The meat was cured or frozen for winter use. There were vegetables from

the garden, wild fruits in season, and fish, available in quantity throughout the year, became a stand-by.

It was an exciting life for a youngster. Although Margaret Sigurdson was too young to help in caring for the lodgers she remembers clearly the coming and going of the many people, the stories told around the fire at night and the excitement of having newcomers in the house who made a fuss over the children.

TODAY Margaret and her husband, Sindi Josephson, have a grown family and several grandchildren. Like her mother she often has a crowd to feed, for during the fishing season she goes out on the lake with her husband to cook for the men at the fishing camp.

Mr. Josephson, his brother and nephew own a fishing station at Rabbit Point on Lake Winnipeg. It is located at the water's edge in a spot where the fishing boats can land. Behind it are the rocks and trees native to the interlake area of Manitoba. There are various-sized buildings at the station, including the fish shed where the catch is sorted, weighed and packed in ice, at least one large ice house, a cook house and several bunk houses. There are piles of empty wooden boxes ready for the packing of the fish and, in the background, large wooden reels on which the nets are wound for drying.

During the summer and fall fishing seasons of June and July, September and October, Mrs. Josephson cooks for the 13 to 15 fishermen at the station. With the men up before dawn and not finished until well after sunset, there are six meals a day to be prepared—three meat-and-potato meals with all the extras and three really hearty lunches. "But," says Mrs. Josephson, "it is not as hard as it was years ago. The hours are long but the camp is modern and it is no harder than it would be making meals for that many people in my own kitchen."

DURING the fishing season the Josephsons hire an extra 10 or 12 fishermen. Each day, by dawn, they are out on the lake. They haul in

the nets, remove the fish which have been caught in the meshes and coil the nets into the wooden box placed in the boat for that purpose. The catch is placed in wooden boxes or other containers and enough chipped ice is added for thorough chilling.

The nets are immediately reset in the water, ready for the next day's catch. They may be placed singly or several may be joined together and set out in a long row in that part of the lake that the fisherman looks upon as his own fishing ground. If a net is badly damaged another is set in its place. Then at the end of the week all the nets are brought to the station. Repairs are made where necessary and the nets are "reeled" on

huge reels for drying during the weekend.

Usually by noon the nets have all been lifted. The loaded boats are brought to the station, the fish quickly unloaded and the boats and containers cleaned ready for the morrow.

As the fish is brought from the lake it is quickly sorted, weighed and dressed. The pickerel is often left whole, or as the fishermen express it "in the round" for export markets. The saugers, and pickerel for domestic use are filleted, the heads and tails may be removed from the whitefish and they are drawn. They are packed in layers in large wooden shipping cases and immediately refrigerated.

(Please turn to page 66)

Cooked and Served

Favorite methods of an experienced Icelandic housewife

IF you want to ask about fish in Manitoba to whom would you go but an Icelander? In their homeland the Icelanders were fishermen. When they came to Canada in the late 1800's they brought their skills with them. They looked about for an area where they could still make a living by fishing, and they were drawn as if by a magnet to the interlake area of Manitoba. It was a harsh, rough country but lakes were numerous and fish abounded there.

The shores of the lakes were soon dotted with fishing camps and villages. Many of the places were given Icelandic names in honor of the people who first settled there or the name of the town in the homeland from which they had come. One such fishing village is Gimli, a town of about 1,300 people on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, 60 miles north of Winnipeg. Fishing is the main industry in the town and the majority of the inhabitants are of Icelandic descent.

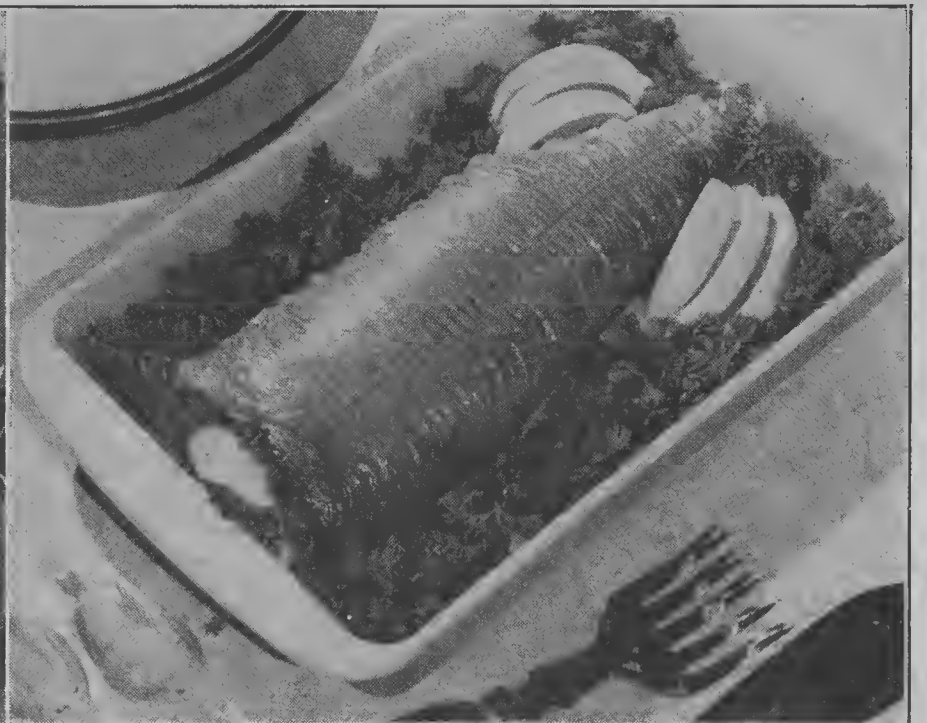
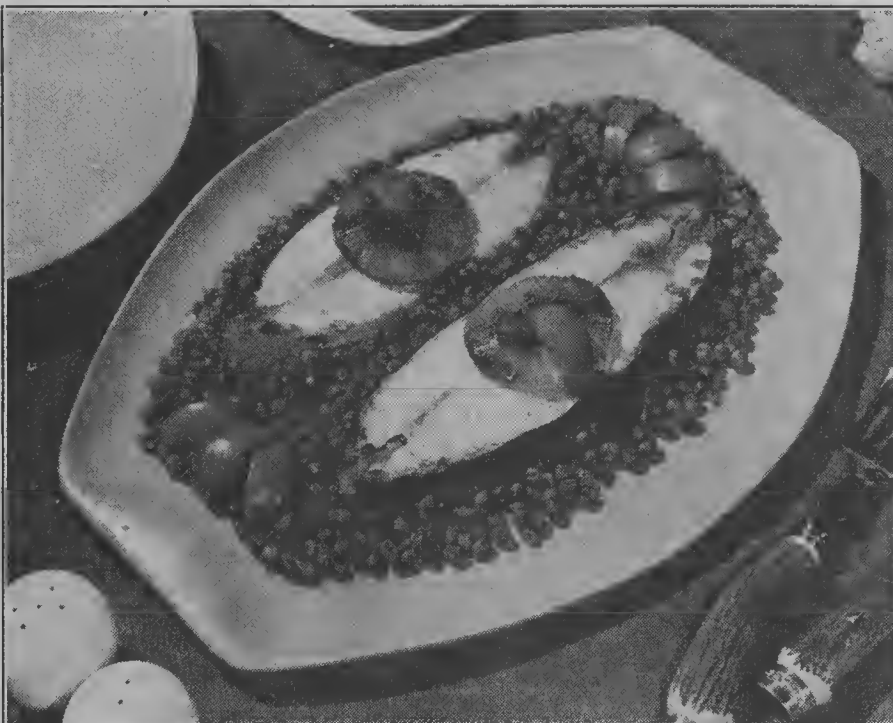
At one time fish was almost the sole "flesh" item of diet for the people of the town. Today new and better methods of keeping fresh meat give

them a greater choice of food throughout the year, and fish is not eaten as often as in the early days. Some families serve it several times a week. Others serve it only two or three times a month. Many of the homemakers who live along the lake, however, are much more familiar with fish than other prairie folk. They know the varieties of fresh-water fish. They have learned from the older generation many methods of preparing it and they have adapted these ways, blending them with new and modern ideas, to suit their own way of life.

Other Canadians could benefit by studying the Icelandic ways of cooking fish, and adapting some of their ideas to suit their family tastes. With this thought in mind we went to see Mrs. Anna Jonasson of Gimli.

Anna Jonasson was born and has lived most of her life in Gimli. Her parents, the Hans Tergesons, came from Iceland to Canada in 1887 and settled in Gimli in 1889. Gimli then was a tiny fishing village. Today Mrs. Jonasson remembers that the fishing skiffs came in from the lake simply

(Please turn to page 70)



Colorfully garnished, fresh broiled steaks and stuffed whole fish add mouth-watering goodness to meals served throughout the year.

Robin Hood wins again!

ALL TOP BAKING PRIZES

AT THE CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

THIRD YEAR IN A ROW

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Only Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour wins such prizes because it's milled under rigid controls, guaranteeing constant top quality . . . and "bake-tested" — twice — for doubly sure results.

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WINNERS!

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- BROWN BREAD — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th prize
- COFFEE CAKE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- ROLLS — 1st, 2nd prize
- BROWN ROLLS — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- BRAN MUFFINS — 1st, 3rd prize
- DATE & NUT LOAF — 1st, 2nd prize
- TEA BISCUITS — 1st prize
- SCONES — 1st, 3rd prize
- ANGEL FOOD CAKE — 1st, 3rd prize
- SHORTBREAD — 1st, 2nd prize
- DROP COOKIES — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- PEACH PIE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize
- APPLE PIE — 1st, 2nd prize
- RAISIN PIE — 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize

JUNIOR SECTION
13 prizes out of a possible 21

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Vitamin Enriched
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FLOUR

Robin Hood

Robin Hood *the prize-winning* Flour

So Fresh So Delicious



Raisin Pie

CRUST: 40 Paulin's Peerless Cream Sodas (unsalted)
1 1/2 tbsps. sugar.
1/4 tsp. salt.
3/4 cup butter.

Roll Soda Crackers into fine crumbs, turn into mixing bowl, add sugar and salt, stir well. Add butter and blend. Empty into 10-inch pie plate (keeping out 1/2 cup of crumbs for top.) Bake at 375° F. for 20 minutes.

FILLING: 2 cups seedless raisins.
2 cups warm water.
1/2 cup sugar.
Pinch of salt.
Pinch of Nutmeg.
Juice and rind of 1 lemon.
2 tbsps. corn starch.
1/4 cup of cold water.
2 egg whites.
Pinch of salt (additional).
1/4 tsp. vanilla.

Combine raisins, warm water, sugar, salt, nutmeg and juice and rind of lemon. Cover and cook for 35 mins. Blend corn starch with cold water, add to heated mixture, stirring until mixture thickens. Beat egg whites, add additional salt and sugar and vanilla, mix thoroughly and spread over filling. Garnish with crumbs and brown.

Listen to Corinne Jordan on the air every Sunday evening

Paulin's

Manufacturers of biscuits and confections for more than 75 years.

Rolls and Fancy Breads

Make the batch of your choice from this basic sweet dough

WHAT is more appetizing than the smell of fresh bread or rolls hot from the oven? Rolls and buns made from a sweet dough take the place of cake for lunch or supper when served with plenty of butter, jelly, marmalade or honey. To the same sweet dough add fruit and nuts, make it into a coffee cake or rolls of fancy shapes, and serve as a special treat with afternoon tea or evening coffee.

Surprise the family with rolls in new and different shapes. Parkerhouse rolls are the old stand-by made from a circle of dough folded in half. Clover leaf rolls are three small rolls baked in one muffin tin and the fan-tans are made from several layers of dough that have been cut in squares and placed cut-side up in muffin tins. Twirls, butterflies, bowknots and crescents are made from strips of dough that have been rolled, twisted or braided to make new and interesting shapes. All are included in the plate of buns in the photo below.

Make the basic dough with enriched flour for extra nourishment. Have all ingredients at room temperature when you begin and set the dough to rise at room temperature. The buns are ready to eat six hours after you mixed the yeast into the lukewarm liquid.

Basic Sweet Dough

1 c. milk	2 tsp. salt
8 c. sifted flour	1/2 c. sugar
1 1/4 c. cold water	4 T. shortening
2 pkg. dry yeast	2 eggs

Scald milk. Add cold water. Measure 1 c. liquid into small bowl. Cool to lukewarm. Dissolve 2 tsp. sugar in it. Add yeast. Let bubble 15 to 20 minutes. Blend. Sift flour and measure into large bowl. To liquid left in saucepan add sugar, salt and shortening and beaten eggs. Add yeast mixture. Mix well. Pour liquids into well made in center of flour. Stir then work with one hand in swirling rotary movement. Form into ball and knead 5 minutes. Brush with shortening; cover with damp cloth then dry cloth and allow to rise at room temperature for 2 hours or until doubled in bulk. Punch down several times in bowl. Shape into rolls or fancy shape and allow to rise again before baking. Makes 4 dozen rolls.

Jelly Braid

1/4 recipe basic sweet dough	1 T. milk
1 T. melted butter	1/4 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. icing sugar	1 T. chopped nuts
	1/4 c. jelly

Roll dough to form rectangle 6 by 12 inches using greased rolling pin. Cut lengthwise in three strips to within 2 inches of end. Braid strips together leaving 2 inches at end to tuck under. Grease large bake sheet. Place braid on center. Spread melted butter into braid. Cover and let rise for 2 hours. Bake 20 minutes at 375° F. Make icing as braid cools. Combine icing sugar, milk and vanilla, beat. When braid is almost cool spread top with icing. Sprinkle with nuts and fill crevices with jelly. Serve when cold, with butter.

Swedish Tea Ring

1/4 recipe basic sweet dough	1 c. icing sugar
2 T. melted butter	1-2 T. milk
1/2 c. brown sugar	2 drops vanilla
2 tsp. cinnamon	1 T. chopped nuts
1/2 c. raisins	2 maraschino cherries

Roll dough to form rectangle 9 by 12 inches. Brush with melted butter to within 1/2 inch of edge. Combine sugar and cinnamon, sprinkle over dough. Roll up like jelly roll. Seal edges firmly, pinching with fingers. Place, shaping into a ring with sealed edge down, on greased baking sheet. With scissors cut through ring at 1-inch intervals to within 1/2 inch of inner edge. Twist each slice slightly on its side. Cover and let rise. Bake 25 minutes at 375° F. Slide onto rack to cool. Prepare icing by blending icing sugar, milk and vanilla. Spread on warm ring and sprinkle with nuts. Garnish with slices of cherry.

Butterscotch Pecan Rolls

1/4 recipe basic sweet dough	1/3 c. pecans
4 T. melted butter	3/4 c. brown sugar

Grease 12 medium-sized muffin tins. Cover bottoms of each with 1 1/2 tsp. brown sugar, 1/2 tsp. melted butter and 1/4 tsp. water. Place 3 or 4 pecans on top of sugar mixture. Roll dough to rectangle 9 by 12 inches. Brush with remaining butter. Sprinkle with the brown sugar and roll up like jelly roll. Seal edges firmly with fingers. Slice into 12 1-inch pieces. Place cut-side down in muffin tins. Cover and allow to rise for 2 hours. Bake 15 to 20 minutes at 375° F. Turn upside down on rack. Remove pan in 4 to 5 minutes.



Jelly braid, Swedish tea ring, butterscotch pecan buns, buns of various shapes, and Hungarian coffee cakes are made from one basic recipe.

[Robin Hood Flour Mills.]

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Pumpkin, Squash and Marrow

For variety and flavor, include these colorful fall vegetables in your menu plans

THE hubbard, acorn and the pepper squashes, vegetable marrows and pumpkins, that are in season now, are vegetables of many uses. They can be combined with foods in casserole and oven dishes, served as a vegetable in a variety of ways or mixed with sugar, eggs and spices for pies and custards.

All members of the squash family, because of their high water content, are better baked or steamed than boiled. Marrow and pepper squash are particularly good stuffed before they are baked. Hubbard squash, cut in serving-size pieces and baked with the roast as you would potatoes, is delicious, and steamed pumpkin that has been sieved or put through the potato ricer is good served as a vegetable as well as in desserts.

The winter varieties will keep for several months when stored in a cool, dry, dark place. Choose only those that are heavy for their size, with firm, solid flesh and unbroken rinds.

Extra-Rich Pumpkin Pie

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 c. cooked pumpkin | 1 drop maple flavoring |
| ¾ c. brown sugar | 3 large eggs |
| 1 c. cream or rich top milk | ½ tsp. salt |
| 1 tsp. vanilla | ½ tsp. nutmeg |
| | ½ tsp. ginger |

Take a small, deep-colored pumpkin. Cut in quarters, peel, remove pith and seeds. Cut in slices. Place in heavy pot with very little water. Cook until tender. Place on low heat and cook steadily, stirring often, for half a day. It should look rich and almost red. Cool and press through sieve. To 1 c. pumpkin add brown sugar (packed), cream, well-beaten eggs and flavorings. Do not use more than 1 drop maple flavoring. Beat thoroughly. Make a rich crust using beaten egg for liquid. Place in a 7-inch pie plate; build fluted crust up well at edges. Pour in filling. Put in hot oven for 15 minutes; reduce heat and bake until crust is golden brown and filling firm (1 hour).

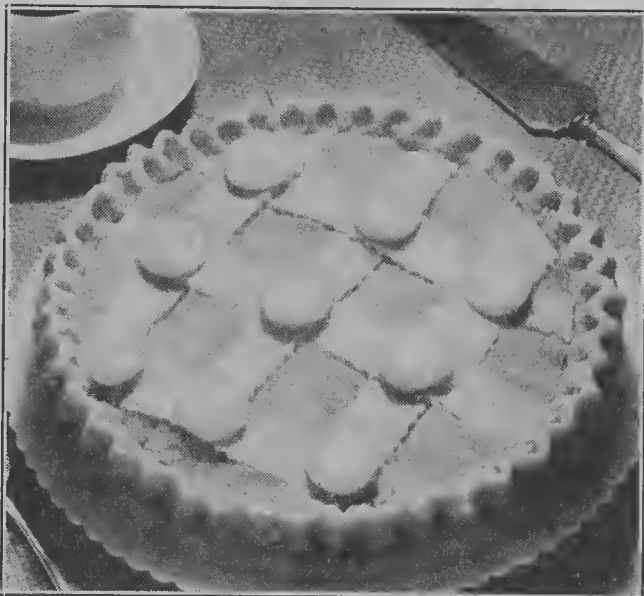
Spicy Pumpkin Pie

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1½ c. canned pumpkin | ¼ tsp. cloves |
| 2 T. melted butter | 2 eggs |
| 1 tsp. ginger | 2 T. sifted flour |
| 1 tsp. cinnamon | 1 c. brown sugar |
| ½ tsp. nutmeg | ½ tsp. salt |
| | 1½ c. milk |

Line a 9-inch pie plate with flaky pastry, build up a high fluted edge. Keep cool in 'frig while making filling. Melt butter, stir in pumpkin along with spices. Beat eggs until light and foamy. Mix flour with sugar and salt; add with milk to beaten eggs. Mix pumpkin and egg mixtures. Pour into unbaked pie shell. Bake at 450° F. for 15 minutes, reduce heat to 375° F. and bake 45 minutes or until silver knife comes out clean. Serve warm with cheddar cheese, or cold topped with whipped cream to which 1 T. sugar and ½ tsp. ginger has been added.

Squash with Sausage

Cut acorn squashes in halves, cross-wise. Remove seeds and stringy portions. Fill cavities with small link sausages or with sausage meat made into small cakes. Place in moderate oven and bake until



Cheese balls served on warm pumpkin pie makes a new and delicious dessert.

tender or about 1 hour. Pour out the fat that collects in the cavities and serve.

Baked Pepper Squash

Allow ½ squash per person. Wash but do not cut. Bake ½ hour in 400° F. oven. Remove from oven, cut in half and remove seeds. In each cavity place 1 tsp. butter or dripping, ¼ tsp. sugar and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Prick with fork so fat permeates squash, return to oven and bake 30 minutes longer or until tender.

Vegetable Pumpkin

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 3½ c. cooked or canned pumpkin | ¾ tsp. salt |
| 2 T. butter | ½ tsp. pepper |

Drain pumpkin in sieve for 15 minutes. Melt butter in saucepan, add pumpkin, salt and pepper. Mix and heat thoroughly. Serves 6.

Spanish Squash

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 3 slices bacon | 1 winter squash |
| 1 large onion | 1 green pepper |
| 2 c. tomatoes | Salt and pepper |

Peel a medium-sized winter squash. Cut in thin cross-wise slices. Cut bacon in small pieces and fry. Add onion, sliced thin and cook until onion is yellow. Add squash slices, cut green pepper in small pieces and add. Add canned tomatoes, salt and pepper. Cover and cook slowly until tender.

Fried Vegetable Marrow

Wash and pare vegetable marrow. Scoop out inside. Cook in boiling water 15 minutes. Drain and slice. Roll in flour, dip in beaten egg which has been diluted with water, roll in fine crumbs and fry. Drain, sprinkle with salt and pepper, serve hot.

Baked Stuffed Marrow

Cut marrow in half crosswise, peel each end, scoop out seeds and loose pulp. Fill each half with seasoned, fresh ground beef, diced onion and bread crumbs; or chopped leftover meats, chopped onions, green or red peppers and cooked rice. Fit halves together and truss with string or use skewers in opposite directions. Bake or simmer in deep pot covered with heavy seasoned tomato sauce until marrow is transparent but not too well done. Serve by slicing through so each service is a complete circle.

Tomato Sauce: To 2 c. canned tomatoes in saucepan add ½ c. chopped onion, 1 bay leaf, 1 T. sugar, ½ tsp. salt, 4 whole cloves, ¼ tsp. pepper and ¼ tsp. mustard. Boil 10 to 15 minutes. Mash through sieve. Melt 3 T. butter in saucepan, stir in 3 T. flour and cook until mixture bubbles. Stir in hot seasoned tomato juice. Stir and boil 5 minutes.

Bake it with
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and serve it
with pride!



Mocha Masterpiece



WHAT woman wouldn't thrill with pride to be able to say "I made it!" And what man could resist a second helping from this perfect dream of a cake! Coffee-flavored . . . flecked through with dark chocolate chips . . . spread billowy-deep with fragrant coffee frosting!

And rest assured, Magic makes it light as chiffon! You're certain of your cake when you choose your own ingredients—then safeguard them with Magic Baking Powder. Put Magic on your grocery list this week end.

Costs less than 1¢
per average baking:

MAGIC MOCHA CHIFFON CAKE

- 2¼ cups sifted cake flour
- 3 tsps. Magic Baking Powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1½ cups fine granulated sugar
- ½ cup salad oil
- 5 unbeaten egg yolks
- ¾ cup cold strong coffee
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3 ounces chilled semi-sweet chocolate, thinly shaved
- ½ tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 cup egg whites

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and sugar into mixing bowl. Make a well in the centre of flour mixture and add salad oil, egg yolks, coffee and vanilla; mix liquids a little with mixing spoon; combine with flour mixture and beat until smooth. Add chocolate and beat to combine (a potato peeler shaves chocolate thinly). Sprinkle cream of tartar over the egg whites and beat until very, very stiff (much stiffer than for a meringue). Gradually fold egg-yolk mixture into the egg-white mixture. Turn into ungreased 10" deep tube pan (top inside measure) and bake in rather slow oven 325°, 1½ to 1¾ hours. Immediately cake is baked, invert pan and allow cake to hang suspended, until cold. (To "hang" cake, rest tube of inverted pan on a funnel or rest rim of pan on 3 inverted small cups.) Remove cake carefully from pan and cover with a brown-sugar 7-minute frosting in which strong coffee is used in place of the usual water.

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FOR EVERY FARM HOME

DELICIOUS QUALITY

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TO KEEP



IN OUR
BLUE & GOLD

3lb PACKAGE



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Typical is this fishing station on Spider Island with its large fish shed, storage sheds, ice houses and cook and bunk houses in the background.

Fish

Continued from page 62

Layers of chipped ice are placed at the bottom and sides of the shipping cases. Large sheets of heavy waxed paper are fitted into the boxes to protect the fish from the melting ice. The layers of chilled fish are packed in. They are covered with waxed paper, topped with another layer of chipped ice and the boxes closed.

TWO or three times a week, fish-company freighters that ply the lake during the fishing season call at the station to pick up the loads of fish. The cases are refrigerated or surrounded by ice and within the week are delivered to Gimli, one of the other fishing towns along the lake shore or to Winnipeg. Then, by air, truck or rail, the fish is shipped to other parts of Canada or the United States.

Manitoba is the largest producer of fresh-water fish in Canada. In 1951 there were more than 6,500 people employed in the commercial fishing industry in the province and over 35 million pounds of fish, at a total value of \$7,500,000, were landed from the lakes of Manitoba. Of this amount, however, only ten per cent is consumed by Canadians. The remaining 90 per cent is exported to the United States.

Today most of the fishing stations on the islands and along the shores of Lake Winnipeg are modern. There are immense quantities of ice for use in the packing and storing of the fish. The fish sheds are clean and sanitary. The kitchens at the camps have good equipment, with modern wood or coal

stoves, ice boxes well stocked with ice, and plenty of cupboards. Only a few have electricity, but this lack is largely overcome in ingenious ways by the fishermen.

Rapid handling of the fish on the lake, at the station and on the freighter is the main factor in the production of high-quality fish, and continuous low temperatures from the time the fish leaves the water until it reaches the consumer is absolutely essential. A little over a year ago the Manitoba Legislature set up a commercial fishing commission to consider the plight of the fishermen and the difficulties they have in supporting themselves and their families. Consideration was given, in the main, to the marketing of fish and to the spread in prices from producer to the retailer. Briefs were presented and discussions took place with the fishermen, fish dealers and other interested parties and recommendations have been made to the provincial government.

Regular lifting of the nets by the fishermen, the use of clean, sanitary boats and containers, a plentiful supply of ice and the icing of the fish as soon as it is taken from the water will ensure delivery of really fresh fish to the station. At the station well-kept buildings with clean tables and sanitary equipment, careful treatment of the fish to prevent bruising, rapid cooling, storage at 30 to 32 degrees and facilities for the handling of fish so that it can be cleared from the stations with the least possible delay are important.

Loaded on the freighter and en route to market special precautions are still necessary. Speed in delivery, maintenance of low temperatures and handling care all play a part in ensuring the consumer of good-quality fish.



Fishing boats dock at fishing station on Big Black River. Reels on which nets are wound for drying and packing cases are part of station equipment.

Ideas for the Bazaar

Novel items to make during the longer evenings of fall and winter

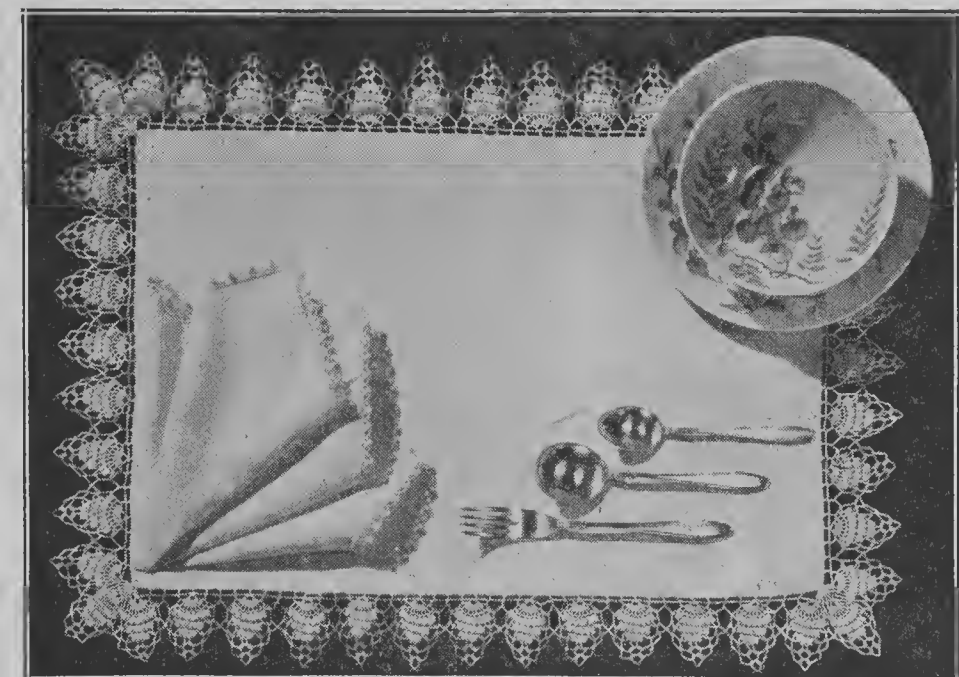
by ANNA LOREE

Design No. E-1160

An embroidered bib is a new idea for the fall bazaar, a pretty addition to the baby's layette or a novel gift for a friend's baby. Make it in fine pale blue or pink cotton, stitch the saw-tooth edging on the machine with white pearl cotton and make the lining of cotton flannel for absorbency and softness. This lovely gift takes but a few minutes to make. You will need a piece of baby blue or pink cotton 9 inches by 10, a piece of flannel, same measurements, and size 5 white pearl cotton. Design No. E-1160. Price 10 cents.

Design No. CS-225

A Dolls - of - America group that is perfect as a bazaar item, a gift for the girl who is just old enough to appreciate pretty things but still likes dolls or for the doll collector of any age. The dresses are crocheted of anchor cotton to fit 8-inch dolls. Illustrated are the Gypsy Girl, Miss Rio of South America and the West Indies Mammy. The three dolls require 5 balls Spanish red, 3 balls Hunter's green, 2 white, 1 jewel blue, 1 dark yellow and 1 black crochet cotton. Design No. CS-225. Price 10 cents.



Design No. CS-243

Pastel-toned place mats and napkins give a delicate look to a dining table or a patient's tray. The edging on the sunset-colored mat is made of 48 pineapple motifs joined by two rows of

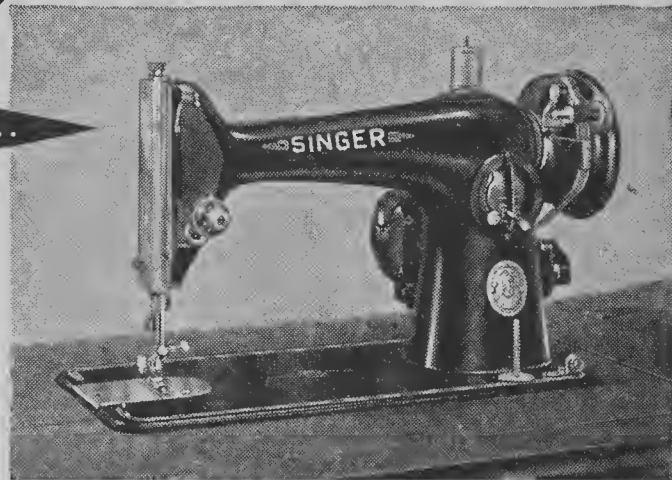
crochet. Another two rows make the heading. Materials required—3 balls of No. 30 crochet cotton in pink, a No. 10 steel hook and 1/2 yard fine pink linen. Sunset-sky place mat and napkin is Design No. CS-243. Price 10 cents.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Dept., Winnipeg, Man.

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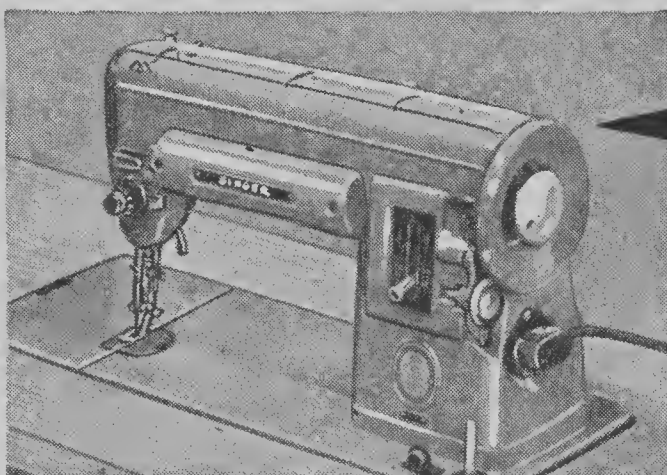
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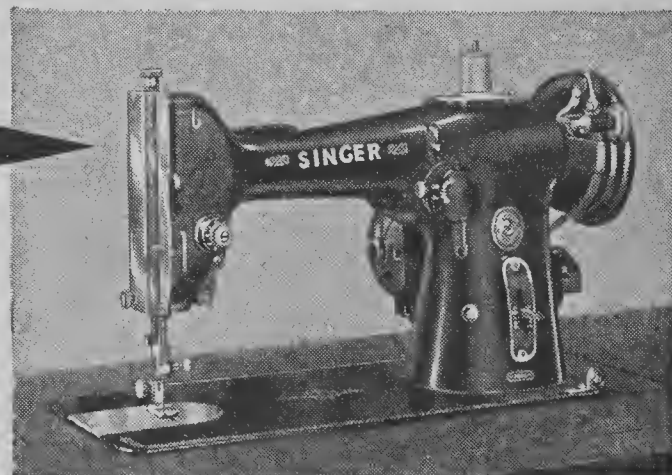
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A Day in Town

A plan to save time and energy

by GLORIA LOGAN

MOST farm women, of necessity, live some distance from the nearest market town. A trip to town is usually a high point of the rural homemaker's week or of a fortnight, as the case may be.

It is natural that she wants to make it a pleasant event; not too rushed with decisions and tasks of shopping to leave her tired and irritable for her return home. How best can she plan and arrange for the event? Perhaps my experience will offer suggestions, which may prove helpful to others.

I go to town only once in every two weeks. While circumstances sometimes make it necessary to go on a Saturday, I prefer a mid-week day. It is almost always a Thursday afternoon. I choose Thursday because by that time, the washing and ironing have been done for the week. Usually I reserve Friday and Saturday for cleaning and baking so Thursday is for me a "free" day.

On Wednesday evening I copy my list of needed items from our kitchen bulletin board, onto a sheet of paper, which goes into my purse immediately. Not for me the grim task of trying to shop from memory only—and to arrive home and discover that we haven't some badly needed item!

On another sheet of paper I list the many chores. This list is divided into sections. Under the heading "drug store," I list the items I must get there. "Hardware store" has its separate list. Our town has only two main streets so I plan my list so that I won't have to retrace my steps.

Next, I gather up the library books, check to make sure that the rental cards are in their proper pockets. Out they go to the car. Thus, there is no chance of forgetting them! Mail is a very important item when one lives in the country. Letters, to be mailed, are put in the glove compartment of the car.

Then I make my own preparations. I take a bath, set my hair and look over the clothes I plan to wear, checking to see that buttons, hem and zippers are intact. A last-minute hunt for a missing belt, broach or gloves tends to fluster one; so it pays to make sure that these small items are ready to hand and in good order.

On Thursday morning I avoid any special jobs such as cleaning and washing, that possibly can be postponed. It's better to start out feeling fresh than to rush through a hard chore and be tired for the start of the journey. Before leaving for town, I set the table for supper. I plan a meal that is easily prepared. One such meal is meat balls and mushroom soup. All the ingredients are cooked in advance. When I come home it is a simple matter to put the meat in a casserole with rice and

cover with a can of mushroom soup, diluted with an equal quantity of water. The casserole meal will heat in a hot oven in about 30 minutes—just about the time it takes me to change into a house dress and to put the groceries away.

In town, I buy all my groceries at one centrally located store, rather than try dashing here and there to save a few pennies. We figure that the physical strain of rushing hither and yon is greater than the financial gain. I try to avoid going to town on a Saturday. On that day the stores and the streets are apt to be crowded. Pushing a baby carriage along a noisy, crowded street and the waiting for service from busy clerks all tend to make Saturday shopping a trying ordeal.

Halfway through the afternoon my husband and I meet by mutual agreement in a cafe for a cup of coffee. The half hour taken relaxes us, gives us an opportunity to exchange bits of information and gives us an extra spurt of energy to finish our shopping jobs. We check our lists at this time. If one is pressed for time due to unexpected delays, the other can usually take over with unfinished items. In the car, ready for home, we sit for a few minutes again checking our lists. When the market town is 40 miles away, the busy farmer or his wife can't afford to forget. We have learned through painful experience that forgotten items mean inconvenience and sometimes an extra trip to town.

Household Ideas

The blades of paring knives have an uncanny way of working loose from the handles. Push a little plastic wood well into the crevice of the handle and replace the blade of the knife. Let it dry for a few hours and the knife will be as strong as new.

A friend who does considerable catering, found that her aluminum jelly molds became pitted with tiny holes. Thinking that the metal was defective, she consulted the manager of the department of the store in which she had bought them. He pointed out that the "pitting" was due to the constantly repeated use of the molds for jellied dishes. He recommended brushing the inside of the molds with a mild cooking oil, in advance of pouring.

Another friend claims that the water, in which potatoes have been boiled is excellent for cleaning silver spoons and forks. If she is in a hurry, and out of silver polish, she dips a piece of raw potato into baking soda and rubs the potato on the silver.

To prevent a food chopper from working loose from the table, when in use, I cut a piece of rubber from an old inner car tube. The piece is about two inches by three and one-half inches and is placed on the table under the chopper.

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Fashioned for Fall



No. 4848—To make with long or short sleeves, in a stripe or tweed, as a dress or a suit for maternity wear. Note the new shoulder line, the slash pockets. The skirt stays slim, the hem even, throughout the waiting period. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires 5 yards 36-inch or $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4026—For boys and girls a three-piece snowsuit that features a long jacket with set-in sleeves and zipper front. Trousers have knee protectors, knitted cuffs. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years. Size 3 requires $2\frac{7}{8}$ yards 35-inch or $1\frac{7}{8}$ yards 54-inch material for helmet, jacket and pants. Price 35 cents.

No. 4820—Girl's fall and winter coat has easy-to-fit lines, shawl collar, pockets, cuffs and the slightly flared back. Sizes 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 requires $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards 36-inch or $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4831—For your fall and winter dress, choose the new princess lines with a "puritan" collar or with small white collar and cuffs. Skirt flares to 143 inches. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires $6\frac{1}{2}$ yards 36-inch or $4\frac{5}{8}$ yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4841—A gracefully cut coat with just the right flare, a neat shawl collar and a curved back yoke. The sleeves are full at the elbow, small at the cuff, may be pushed up or worn full length. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires $3\frac{7}{8}$ yards 54-inch material, $3\frac{7}{8}$ yards 39-inch lining. Price 50 cents.

No. 4840—For the shorter figure a half-size coat with a graceful flare. Raglan sleeves, a squared-off collar and cuffs are featured. Sizes $12\frac{1}{2}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, $16\frac{1}{2}$, $18\frac{1}{2}$, $20\frac{1}{2}$, $22\frac{1}{2}$ and $24\frac{1}{2}$ (31 to 43-inch bust). Size $18\frac{1}{2}$ (37) requires $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4875—This eye-catching sailor collar is a first this fall. Gathered skirt flares to 105 inches. Sleeves may be short or three-quarter length. Add either a tailored bow or a large Windsor tie. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires $4\frac{1}{4}$ yards 36-inch or $3\frac{1}{8}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

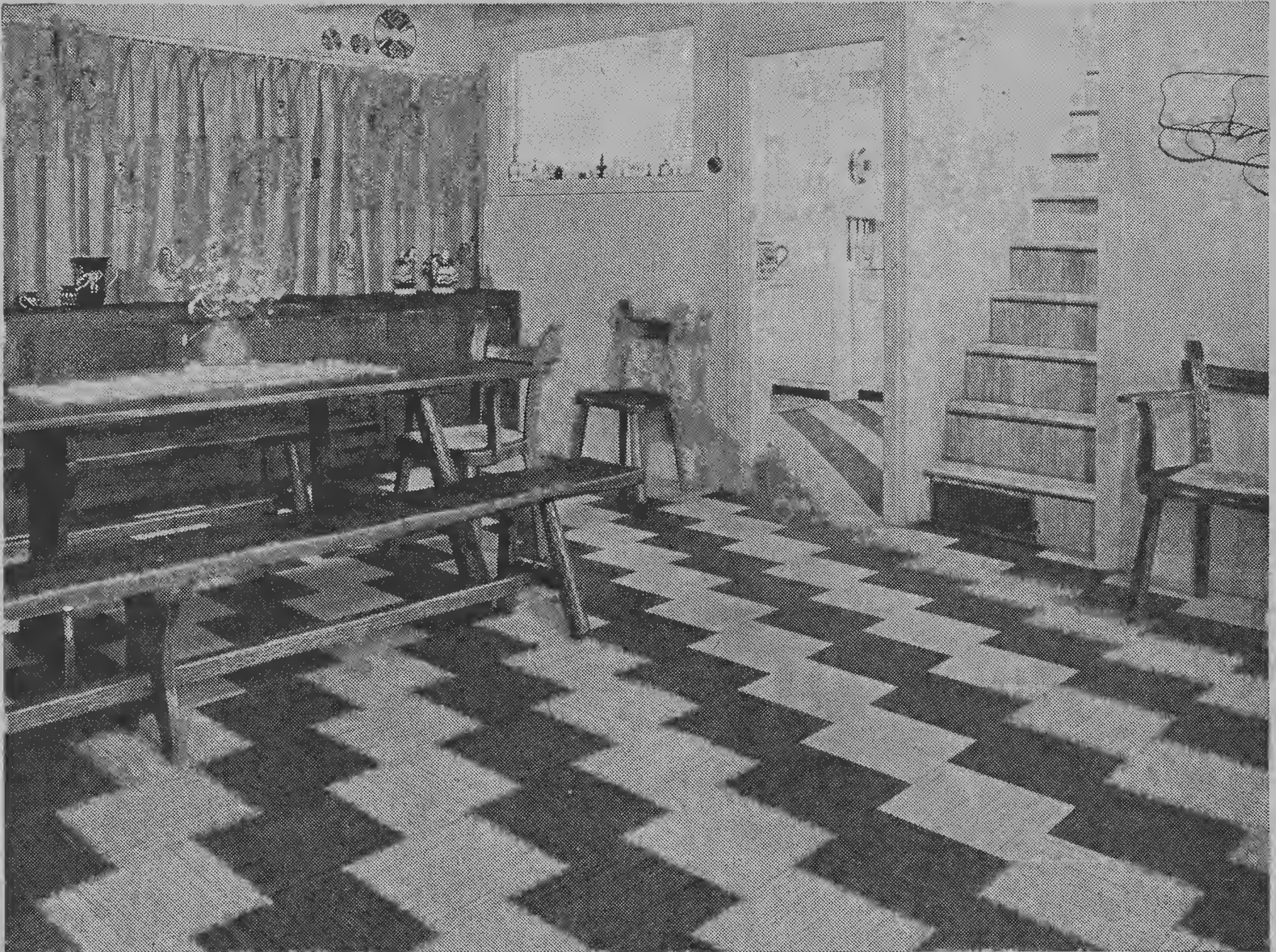
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DOMINION *inlaid* LINOLEUM floors beautify and instruct at the "Centre Social de Claire-Vallée"



This is Madame Françoise Gaudet-Smet, famed in French Canada as an editor, lecturer; teacher. She operates near Saint-Sylvere, Quebec—the "Centre Social de Claire-Vallée", where French-Canadian women are instructed in home economics, home decoration and the basics of better living.

Madame Smet recently selected floors of Dominion Inlaid Linoleum for her unique Centre—for some very important reasons. For instance, the dining room pictured here is used extensively by the members of Madame Smet's classes—as are the other rooms of the Centre. The floors, therefore, must be *durable*, *easy to clean* and a *style leader* for the home of today. Dominion Inlaid Linoleum is the perfect choice—it gleams after a moment's mopping; stays fresh, springy and unscuffed through years of heavy wear.

To Madame Smet's students of home decoration, these floors serve as inspiring examples of what they too can achieve in beautifying and modernizing their own homes. Dominion Inlaid Linoleum's wonderful array of colours and shades allows the homemaker to choose flooring that's *right* for all living areas—dining room, living room, bedroom . . . kitchen, bathroom, hall. Dominion Inlaid Linoleum can bring loveliness, liveliness, *less work* to your home too.

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Co-op Highlights

Co-operatives continue to expand the services they offer to farmer-members

United Livestock Sales Ltd., marketing agency for the Ontario Hog Producers Association, has started full-scale operation of their hog assembly point at Kitchener. This is the first major step in the organization's program to direct western Ontario's surplus hogs to areas, such as Toronto, where supply is short. The Kitchener sales ring is open for hog assembly every day except Thursday, and has a daily capacity of 1,500 hogs. The main reason the town was chosen as the assembly center is that 60 per cent of Ontario's hogs are produced in the eight adjacent counties—over 60 per cent of the province's hogs are killed in the Toronto area, and only 20 per cent are killed in the Kitchener area. If the hog assembly venture is a success, other assembly points may be set up in other parts of the province. V

More stabilized prices for Ontario fresh peach growers is the aim of the Ontario Peach Growers Co-operative formed this year under the Growers Marketing Board. The new agency operates eight receiving stations with a total capacity of 50,000 baskets where surplus fruits can be kept in cold storage until marketed. The staff includes eight fieldmen, located in the main market centers so that executive members may be informed of the volume these areas can handle, and what the price should be. Almost two million baskets have been marketed by the organization since last July, with grower price averaging about 50 cents per basket. In addition, the agency has accumulated a bank balance of about \$25,000 which will be divided among grower-members at the year's end. V

An eastern United States farmer-owned organization, the Co-operative Grange League Federation Exchange Inc., is said to be the world's largest farm supply business. Owned by 118,000 farmers in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey states, the G.L.F. does \$180 million business a year, and nets about \$4 million in savings. In its 34 years of operation, the co-operative has expanded to include

660 retail outlets, three large feed mills, 13 fertilizer and chemical plants, five seed processing plants, four marine terminals for petroleum products, eight wholesale farm supply warehouses, a dog food factory, and a retail gas station—these have a total payroll of 4,300 employees. Last year the G.L.F. sold almost 2.5 million tons of feed and fertilizer, over 100 million gallons of bulk fuels, and \$14.5 million worth of general farm supplies. Marketing operations included 3.5 million bushels of grain and beans, and nearly 700,000 cases of eggs. Their advertising budget now averages about \$1 million a year. V

The U.S. Farm Credit Administration, through its Co-operative Bank Service, announces that more farmers' co-operatives are using the facilities of the Service's 13 banks than at any time in its 21-year history. Loans to 2,050 marketing, purchasing, and business service co-operatives, representing 3.1 million farmer-members, totalled \$304 million on June 30 of this year. New grain elevators and additions to old ones, new fertilizer plants, dairy plant modernization, and inventory adjustments to meet changing conditions were the main reasons for borrowing as the organizations continued to expand their services to meet farmers' needs. V

The orderly marketing of farm products is the first step toward a stable agriculture, states the British Farmer. The more producer-owned marketing organizations there are the greater is the incentive to get farm products to the consumer at an economical price. One of the original crusaders in the battle for the economical distribution of farm products was the old Potato Marketing Scheme, set up in 1933 by the National Farmers' Unions of England, Scotland and Wales. During the last war the Board was taken over by the government, but it is now being re-constituted as the farmer's answer to orderly marketing under present-day conditions of a free market. V



[Photo courtesy New Idea Farm Equip. Co.]
Attacking milk surplus problems at home, a U.S. farm equipment company has installed milk vending machines in all its factories.

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Grain Drying

If you plan to dry grain use a big fan and enough heat to do the job

THE need to dry large quantities of grain has once more become very real on the prairies. As days pass into weeks, and the grain in the fields continues damp, the temptation to harvest before the grain is dry becomes hard to resist.

Dampness or toughness in stored grain can result in losses. Heating may result in the loss of entire bins of grain. Tough grain is sometimes infested with mites, or beetles. Tough seed grain may lose much of its viability, if it remains in storage during warm weather.

Several methods can be used to dry grain. The one selected will depend, in large measure, on the amount of moisture in the grain.

A ventilator cap on granaries can help under some conditions. If the grain is not too wet, and is piled only one or two feet deep on a perforated floor, air moving through it will slowly dry it out.

Perforated floors are not difficult to construct. One method is to drill one-inch holes in each corner of three-inch squares on a false plywood floor. Another is to build the false floor of one-by-fours, half-an-inch apart. In both cases the floor is covered with fine wire screening.

Air can be driven through grain in an air tight granary with a perforated floor. The Manitoba Department of Agriculture points out that it takes four times the force to drive air through grain when the depth is doubled. When a fan is in operation it should be possible to feel the air coming through the grain. This is rarely accomplished when the grain is over four feet deep. A weak blast of air will move moisture to the top of the grain, drying the bottom layer, but depositing a wet crust on top.

When drying grain in a bin, the drying temperature should be from 10 to 20 degrees F., above the outside temperature. For this type of drying, outdoor temperatures should be above freezing, and the heating unit must run continuously, to avoid the danger of wet upper layers of grain.

A four-foot depth of wheat might be expected to take eight to ten days to dry from 20 per cent moisture down to 10 per cent. The air flow should be at least 2.5 cubic feet per minute per bushel of grain in the bin.

A VERY simple grain drier, operated on the farm of H. C. Enquist, Minnedosa, Manitoba, has proved fairly effective for small lots of grain. A large, electrically driven fan picks heated air up over a workshop stove and drives it through a semi-circular screen pipe buried in an airtight 60-bushel wagon box outside the building. This system will remove up to five per cent moisture in 15 hours if adequate heat is provided. It is satisfactory for improving the condition of seed, but is too slow for a large quantity of grain.

Another technique is to build a false bottom into a truck box. Two-by-eight planks are placed lengthwise, on edge, on the truck box floor at two-foot intervals. Two-by-twos are placed across (Please turn to page 78)

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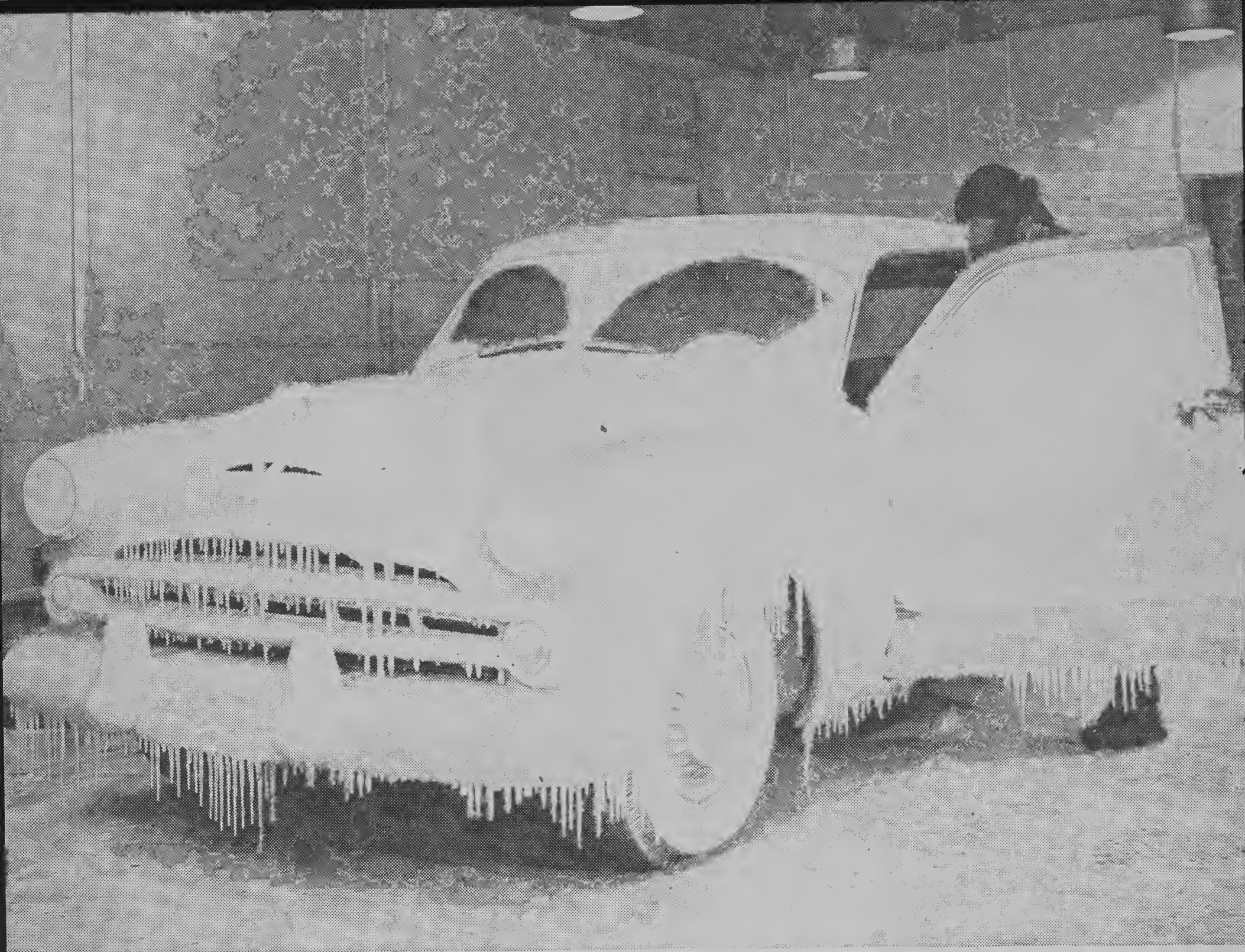
SULMET effectively controls outbreaks of cecal coccidiosis in chickens as well as outbreaks of coccidiosis in turkeys.

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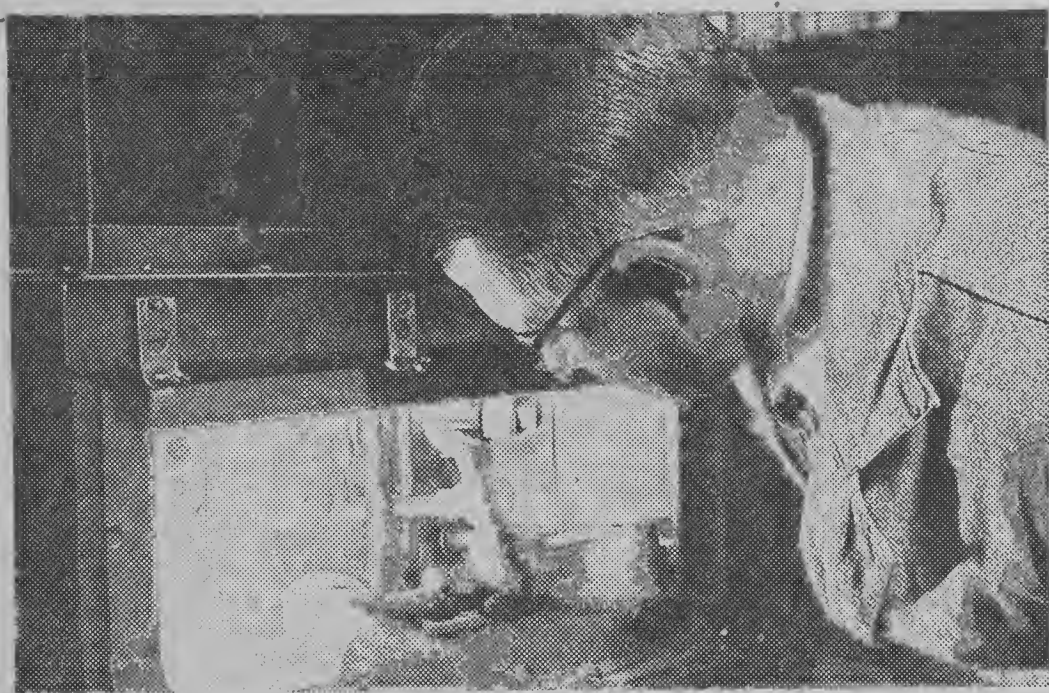
SULMET is highly effective in controlling outbreaks of infectious coryza (colds) in chicken flocks.

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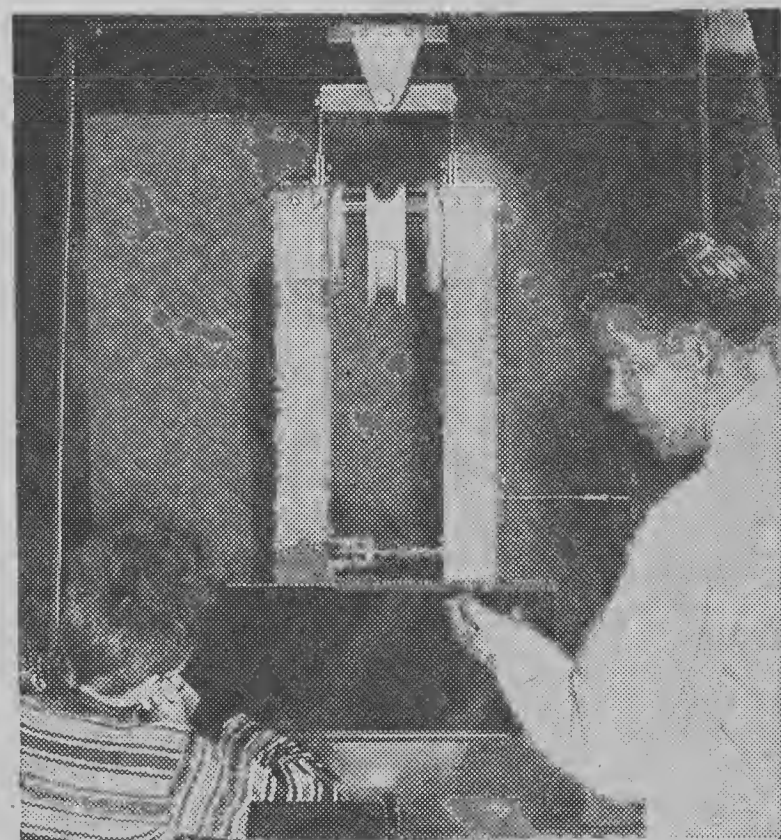
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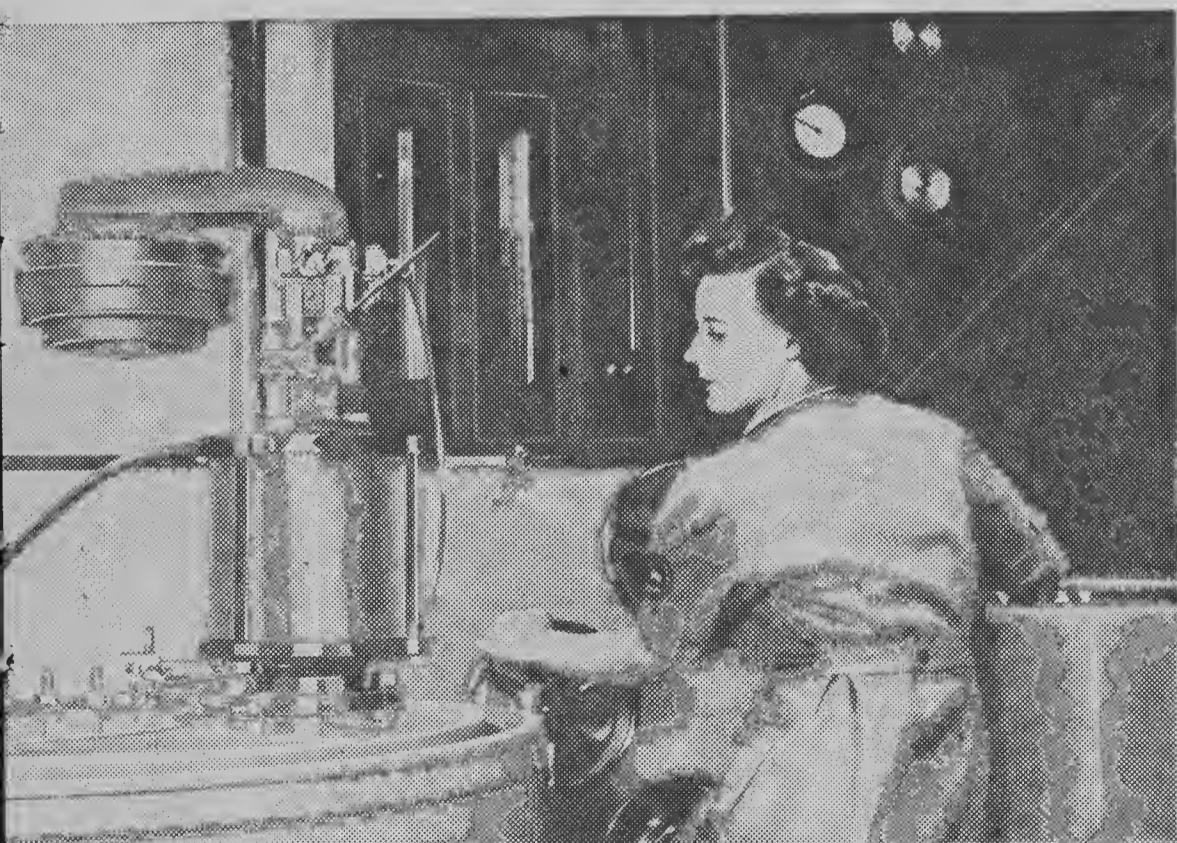
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them, also at two-foot intervals; then one-by-two strips are nailed flat across these at two-inch intervals. Window screening is laid over the whole, and held firm by one-by-one strips of wood tacked to the top of the one-by-twos. An air duct across the open end between the floor and the false floor is connected to a heating unit.

Grain to a depth of 12 to 15 inches can be handled in this drier. Between 25 and 60 cubic feet of air, heated to 120 degrees F., should be forced through every minute.

In building a drier, careful attention should be paid to the selection of a

heating unit and fan. For drying large quantities of grain, a unit is required which will produce a great deal of heat, and a fan which will deliver a substantial volume of heated air.

"The most common cause of disappointment in farm grain drying is a lack of sufficient heat," said George Holmes, agricultural engineer, Manitoba Department of Agriculture.

Plans for grain driers are available from provincial departments of agriculture. Those planning to build grain driers would be wise to contact their agricultural representative, or department of agriculture.

Food Marketing Margins

The part of the consumer's food dollar that the farmer doesn't get has increased in recent years

A STUDY recently published by the Economics Division, Canada Department of Agriculture and conducted by G. E. Woollam concludes that of Canada's \$3.5 billion annual food bill about three-quarters was expended for food originating on Canadian farms. "It is estimated," says the report, "that about half of the retail value of food originating on Canadian farms is absorbed in transforming the product and in placing it in the hands of the consumer, whereas the other half goes to the farmer for his production. Thus, returns to farmers from the sale of food to Canadian consumers, provide a large part of total farm income, probably about one-half in recent years."

If 1949 is taken as 100, the food index for the five-year period 1949-1953, shows a rise to 112.6, as compared with a rise in marketing costs from 100 to 116.1. On the other hand, the farm share of the consumer's dollar reveals a drop from 100 to 95.2 in the same period. Farmers are much interested in the share they receive of the consumer's dollar, and the amount which goes into consumer food costs after the farmer has sold his product. The report emphasizes the close relationship existing between the costs of marketing farm products and the general level of wages and of material costs in Canada. Costs are also affected by the volume of sales. Farm prices are related not only to the general Canadian price level, but reflect production in Canada as well as in other countries. "Export markets," we are told, "exert a strong influence on the determination of farm prices. Because marketing costs are more rigid than farm prices, changes in prices at retail are readily reflected in the proportion of the retail dollar that is received at the farm."

Thus, while marketing costs increased 16.1 per cent from the end of 1949 to the end of 1953, the level of wages and salaries rose 37 per cent, as compared with a rise in the cost of industrial materials of 6.6 per cent.

The farm share of the consumer's dollar, as a percentage of the retail price, is given for 12 commodities over the 1949-53 period. The variation in this share is very striking and, of course, varies as between different products. The farm share for creamery butter is the highest of the 12 and reached 79 per cent in 1951, as compared with 76 per cent in 1950. Other

products, such as Grade A large eggs, also show a high percentage of the consumer's dollar going to the farmer—in this case from 72 to 79 per cent. For good quality beef the producer got from 58 per cent in 1953 to 65 per cent in 1950. For fluid milk, his percentage varied from 53 per cent in 1953 to 56 per cent in 1949. For potatoes the variation was from 41 per cent in 1953 to 65 per cent in 1952. On the lower scale of percentages the farmer received only from 15 to 18 per cent of the consumer's dollar spent for white bread, from 14 to 17 per cent of expenditure for canned corn, from 27 to 35 per cent for plain processed cheese, and from about 19 to 22 per cent for such canned products as peaches, tomatoes and peas.

Generally speaking, per capita annual expenditure for food in Canada has increased from \$156.50 in 1935 to \$254 in 1953. Total expenditure for food increased during the same period from \$791 million to \$3,755 million. Strangely enough, however, despite these very substantial dollar increases the percentage of disposable income expended for food, decreased during the same period from 24 per cent to 22.6 per cent last year.

The reason for this decrease is revealed by the amounts of individual foods which can be purchased with one hour's industrial wages. Thus the amount of milk purchasable in 1939 and in 1953 with one hour's wages,

"Life, like a dome of many-colored glass
Stains the white radiance of eternity."—Shelley's "Adonais."

increased from 4.4 to 6.4 quarts. In 1939 it would purchase 5.2 (24-ounce) loaves of bread and 7.5 loaves in 1953. For flour the increase was from 13.8 to 17.9 pounds; butter, 1.7 to 2.1 pounds; cheese, 1.8 to 2.1 pounds; round steak, 2.1 to 1.8 pounds; blade roast, 2.9 to 2.6 pounds; pork loin, 1.8 to 1.9 pounds; bacon, 1.4 to 1.6 pounds; peaches, 3.4 (15-oz.) tins to 6.7 tins; peas, 3.6 (20-oz.) tins to 6.4 tins; eggs, 1.4 dozens to 2 dozens; potatoes, 2.2 (10-lb.) bags to 3.5 bags.

For the most part, therefore, and excepting only beef, wages in manufacturing industries have risen more rapidly than have food prices.—H.S.F.

Growing Tree Fruits In Manitoba

*Fruit shows exert a marked educational influence
and help many interested persons to start right*

by F. J. WEIR

MANITOBA'S Provincial Fruit Show was held this year, August 26-27, at Brandon, along with the Provincial Honey Show. Both provincial projects were held in conjunction with the annual Show of the Brandon Horticultural Society.

One of the most often-heard remarks at these fruit shows is "I never realized that such fruit can be grown in Manitoba." There have been many fruit shows held in the past, and over the years those in charge feel that the shows have two main accomplishments. They acquaint a large number of visitors every year with the fact that fruit such as apples, crabapples, plums and other lesser-grown fruits can be grown, and grown successfully in Manitoba. They also familiarize many home owners who are interested in growing fruit, with the varieties best suited to their own local areas.

The educational value of any show is often underestimated. Always, a certain number of visitors are merely interested. They walk through the show, glance at the exhibits, admire the attractive coloring of a plate of apples, or crabapples, or the delicate bloom on a plate of plums. A much larger number, however, come to the show equipped with pencil and notebook. They are the ones who spend considerable time over the apple section, or the sandcherry-plum section, with pencil in hand. These are the growers who are looking for entries from their own areas, and who write down from the entry cards, the names of those varieties that are performing best in the local gardens of their district.

Manitoba as a province may never become a rival of the Okanagan or Annapolis Valleys for apple production, although excellent entries of apples were received from as far north as Dauphin. Commercial production of apples in the future may be limited to the Morden, Carman, Portage and Miami area, although a grower at Pine Falls is demonstrating that apples can be grown commercially in that district. Manitoba may not have extensive plum or sandcherry-plum orchards in the future, although home gardeners in most sections of the province are growing them. But Manitoba can grow crabapples, and crabapples of quality superior to those grown anywhere else in Canada. The long sunny days and comparatively short season prevailing in the province seem to favor the culture of crabapples that are attractive in appearance, rich in flavor and high in quality.

Every gardener has an ambition to have an apple tree. Although there has been considerable experimental work done in developing suitable and reliable fruit varieties for most of the province, crabapples have given a better performance generally over a larger area. The writer has seen excellent crabapples displayed at horticultural shows as far north as The Pas.

Fruit growing in Manitoba is not new. The late A. P. Stevenson, Manitoba's "Apple King," demonstrated to

the public, some 70 years ago, that fruit production was economically possible. Through the years the number of growers interested in fruit growing has steadily increased, and today there are countless people throughout the province who are interested in growing a variety of fruits. V

Sammy Socker

Continued from page 81

to make enquiries about Sammy. Mr. Pepper assured his wife that Sammy was not in his pocket. An hour later, however, he telephoned. "I've found Sammy," he said. "He's in my brief case."

Mrs. Pepper looked at Polly. Polly shook her head that she was not guilty, and her mother believed her. "It's a mystery. I think grandmother might know how to solve it. She made Sammy, and she may know why he is running away."

When Grandmother Pepper heard the story she laughed softly. "It's the work of the rain-fairy. We asked him to visit, and then we forgot about him. He spun his magic over Sammy Socker. Sammy is made from your daddy's socks, and so he is following your daddy everywhere he goes. Now I'll tell you what we'll do, Polly. I'll come over to your house to dinner. After dinner, we'll remove Sammy Socker's arms and legs, and we'll give him new ones, made from your socks. I'm sure he will stay and play with you."

Grandmother Pepper was right. The change was made, and Sammy Socker never strayed again.



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The Country



THE Indians had a name for October. They called it "The Moon of Falling Leaves." Slowly, steadily, silently the leaves float downward to make a protective covering for plants and to enrich the earth.

This month we think of Hallowe'en and make plans for parties at home or school. Here is a game which will get your party off to a lively start. It is called "Uncle Joshua Died Last Night." All the players sit in a circle and one is chosen to be leader. He turns to his right hand neighbor and says, "Do you know that my Uncle Joshua died last night?"

The neighbor answers, "That's too bad. How did he die?"

"With one eye shut," and the leader closes one eye.

The second player repeats the lines to the third and closes his eye and so on around the circle until all the players have one eye shut.

Then the leader repeats again, "Do you know that my Uncle Joshua died last night?"

The neighbor again asks, "That's too bad, how did he die?"

The leader answers, "With one eye shut and his mouth awry," and keeping his eye shut he twists his mouth to one side and so it goes on around the circle. The third time around the leader introduces, "With one eye shut, his mouth awry and one foot held high," and the fourth time around he adds to this "and waving good-bye."

By this time all your players will be in very funny positions and laughing heartily.

Ann Sankey

Sammy Socker

by Mary Grannan

IT was raining, and Polly Pepper was pouting. Her usually merry face was as dark as the rain clouds that hung overhead. Polly was disappointed. She had gone to her grandmother's to spend the day. They had planned to do many exciting things in the sunshine.

Mrs. Pepper laughed, "Polly, come away from the window, and forget the rain."

Polly's mouth flew open. "How can I forget the rain, Gran?" she said. "How can I forget it, when it's going 'drip drop drip'? It's stopped us from going to the market to see the rabbits, and stopped us from hunting for acorns in the park."

"We can do those things another day. When I was a little girl, I always liked a rainy day."

"Why?" asked Polly, flatly.

"Because of its magic," said Grandmother Pepper.

The scowl left Polly's face, to be followed by a wide and happy smile. "What do you mean by 'its magic'?"

"I have heard," said Mrs. Pepper, "that once in a blue moon, a rain-fairy comes to earth on a rainy day and will spin magic, if he is made welcome. Now mind you, I'm not telling you this for true, but I have heard it."

Polly winked at her grandmother. "I think it's true grandmother, and I'm going to welcome him." The little girl ran to the window again and pushing up the sash just far enough for her red lips to speak through, she called out, "rain-fairy, rain-fairy, dear, you are very welcome here."

She turned back to her grandmother. "Do you think he'll come now?"

"If he's out there, he should come," smiled Mrs. Pepper. "That was a very nice invitation."

Polly settled down by the window to wait. Her grandmother hastened to explain, that were the rain-fairy to come, he would be invisible. "You won't be able to see him, Polly. You'll discover his magic, but he'll weave it unseen."

Polly sighed again. "He's not as much fun as I thought he would be. What'll we do now, Gran?"

Mrs. Pepper went to her mending basket, and pulled several brightly colored socks from it. "What do you say to our making a sock doll?"

"I'd say 'yes,' Gran."

"Good," said Mrs. Pepper. "I have a great many socks in this basket, belonging to your father, that are quite beyond repair. We'll choose the prettiest, and we'll make a doll." Gran ran her hands into several of the socks, before they found a good one, with a poor mate. "The good one will make the body, and the torn one will make the arms and the legs, and perhaps a little stocking cap."

Polly was excited as she watched the doll grow in her grandmother's capable hands. She had forgotten all about the rain-fairy. But he had come, and was sitting, unseen, on the edge of the work basket, watching all that was going on.

When the doll was finished, it was very funny, fat and comfortable. "I'll call him Sammy Socker," laughed Polly. "Hello, Sammy Socker!"

She squeezed her new doll lovingly. His face twisted into a smile. Polly kissed her grandmother, and told her that she'd had the nicest and happiest rainy day in her whole life. She told her mother the same thing, when she went home.

"And I'd like you to meet Sammy Socker, Mum," she said. Polly's mother

Boy and Girl

shook hands with the little sock doll.

"Daddy," she said. "I'd like you to meet Sammy Socker, too."

Mr. Pepper looked at the little doll sharply, as he shook its woollen hand. "Sammy," he said, "you look vaguely familiar to me."

Polly laughed. "No wonder he does, daddy," she said. "He's a pair of your socks. One sock was good, and the other one had such a big hole in the heel, that grandmother said she couldn't mend it."

That night, Polly put Sammy Socker on the blue chair in her pink room. The next morning he was gone. Polly was not alarmed about his disappearance until she went down to breakfast. "Where is he, Mum?" she asked.

"He's gone to work, darling," said Mrs. Pepper.

Polly laughed. "I don't mean daddy," she said. "I mean Sammy Socker."

Mrs. Pepper raised her eyebrows. "Why are you asking me? Sammy Socker is your responsibility. I didn't touch him."

"But he's gone. He was on my blue chair. I thought you'd brought him downstairs to have breakfast. Oh, Mum, where is Sammy Socker?"

Mrs. Pepper suggested that probably the doll had fallen from the chair, and was somewhere in the pink room. They both searched for the missing doll. He was not to be found.

That evening, when Mr. Pepper returned from work, he had Sammy Socker with him. "Listen, kitten," he said to Polly, "I want no more of your jokes. When I got to the office this morning, everyone laughed and asked me when I'd started to play with dolls. I looked down at my overcoat pocket, and there was Sammy Socker staring up at me."

Polly shook her head. "I didn't put Sammy in your pocket, daddy. I've been hunting for him all day long, haven't I, Mum?"

"That's right, dear," Mrs. Pepper said to her husband, "and don't look at me. I didn't put Sammy in your pocket, either."

That night, Polly put Sammy Socker in her bureau drawer. She told him that she was sorry to have to do it, but that it was better that way. The next morning when Polly got up, Sammy was gone.

So was her father. Polly was so worried, that her mother called the office

(Please turn to page 79)

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No. 32 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



THERE is a charm about old woods trails that is hard to define. Old Indian trails, corduroy, freighting roads, cow paths—they lie before you with a subtle and ever-present invitation to follow, to wander on and on as the trail itself meanders, now here, now there, never-ending.

There must be many, besides the writer, who are so unprogressive as to admit to a certain regret when the horse and buggy finally gave way to the auto. Something very picturesque went out of country life then. A jeep chugging through the woods has a far different sound from the click of hoofs and the gentle churring of the buggy wheels or even the occasional ring of wheel-rim on stone.

However, the old roads are still there, gradually growing up to brush,

since in the country a road counted "passable" for horse and buggy might be—and often was—a sheer impossibility for their mechanical rival.

Many a fine picture waits to be made where such an old trail wanders through the woods, gently curving around the hillsides and dipping down through ravine and meadow. It is the road that makes the picture, so in your sketch put down at once a few simple lines to indicate its curves. In the scene reproduced, done with grease crayon on rough paper, a half dozen simple strokes (to indicate direction of road and slope of hillside) make the foundation for the whole drawing.

A small card with a 1" x 1½" rectangle cut out of it is useful to frame the landscape you want to draw, making it simpler to establish proportions. Look through it with one eye.

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VOL. LXXIII WINNIPEG, OCTOBER, 1954 No. 10

McIvor at Washington

THE time was not very propitious when George McIvor, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, appeared before the U.S. Tariff Commission in Washington last month. He was appearing on behalf of the producers of oats and barley in western Canada, to oppose recommendations of the United States Department of Agriculture that limitations be placed on the importation of these grains from this country. In July, 1953, Mr. McIvor appeared before the Commission, which had before it then, only the question of imported oats. Later in the year Canada agreed voluntarily to limit the export of oats to the U.S. to 23 million bushels, from December 10, 1953, to December 31, 1954.

Mr. McIvor's argument, both with respect to wheat and barley, though reasoned and restrained, was frankly stated. Concluding his statement about oats, he said: "I submit that a restriction on the importation of Canadian oats into the United States is not necessary, or advisable, and will not make a significant contribution to the price problem you are examining . . . Let us not get into the position of doing things today which are not required under ordinary circumstances, and which may create present and future problems for both our countries."

With respect to both oats and barley Mr. McIvor argued that Canadian production had not been expanded unduly. In fact, oats acreage had been nearly halved in the ten years ending in 1953, with the result that we now have "some 80 million bushels, at the most, for export and commercial reserves." Therefore, "having regard to the extremely low level of oats acreage in western Canada, there is no long-term threat to any export market."

About half of the barley produced in western Canada is fed on farms and little or none is exported. Of the remainder, approximately half goes into commercial channels in Canada, leaving about a quarter of the crop for export—say, 45 million bushels. For years, Canadian producers have specialized in the production of a superior quality of malting barley designed to meet the requirements of the Canadian and United States malting industry. That this barley commands a substantial premium was proved by the final 1952-53 Board prices.

It is significant of the disturbed and uncertain political conditions in the United States at the present time, that efforts should now be made to disturb normal trading between neighboring countries, in products for which there is a strong demand in the United States. The mid-term congressional elections, to be held within the next three weeks, come at a time when the United States has a serious surplus problem on its hands, and very soon after the Congress was persuaded to plump for flexible rather than fixed price supports. Also, the temper of American farmers is somewhat uncertain in view of Mr. Ezra T. Benson's tough attitude—since somewhat relaxed—toward substitute crops for acreages released from wheat under the wheat allotment program. When to these unfavorable circumstances are added reduced U.S. farm exports and falling farm prices and net income, the logic of the situation is inescapable. It points to an uneasy trade relationship with the United States, where farm products are concerned, as long as the U.S. political horoscope is as clouded as it is today. V

Plight of the Farmer

ANY ideas current at this writing as to the amount of wheat and other grains which will be harvested in western Canada this fall, lie now in the realm of "guesstimates." Official estimates—as they must do—report the crop as of a given date, but

this year, by the time they could be published, the situation had worsened substantially. The ravages of rust, the continuing wet weather and considerably lower-than-average grades, the imminence of frost, the certainty of quantities of tough and damp grain, and the impossibility of delivering to elevators any appreciable quantity of grain when it can be harvested, all add up to an extremely difficult situation.

It is now certain that quite a few prairie farmers—perhaps thousands—will need some help this fall and winter, if only to provide essential credit for those who by the standards of banking institutions are not credit-worthy. The situation today is vastly different from what it was before mechanization put farm finances on what should be a cash basis. Many farmers, it is to be feared, have failed to recognize the significance of the change.

Banks have lent large sums of money during the past year of short deliveries. They have given assurances already that farmers will not be pressed unduly, and that money is still available for further loans. Unfortunately for many would-be borrowers, the banks lend depositors' money, and must safeguard it. There may be no reasonable limit to what they may be able to lend in the aggregate, but this may be of little help to the individual with pressing debts and facing the necessity of putting in a crop next spring.

The minds of governments and their officials should be cleared at once of the idea that anywhere near all western farmers have substantial quantities of grain in store, against which money can be borrowed. It should be recognized also, that the combined effect of the general grain marketing situation, plus the immediate 1954 crop problem, could, and probably will have a shock effect on the prairie economy, that will almost certainly be reflected elsewhere. It seems to us, therefore, that there is an immediate need for some government action which would at least ease the situation. V

Canada's Trade

CANADA'S exports of goods to other countries has declined over the last two years. In 1952, our export total was high, partly because prices were higher. In 1953 there was not much reduction in volume, but prices of important raw materials, such as lead, zinc, wood pulp, and coarse grains, were down, from 11 to 40 per cent below 1952. Consequently, the total value of all Canadian exports last year was down 4.2 per cent below the year before. For the first seven months of this year prices have been relatively steady, but the actual volume was down.

The Bank of Montreal Business Review calls attention to the influence of our wheat exports on the regional distribution of total exports from Canada. In 1952, the United States took 54 per cent of all our exports, leaving 46 per cent for all other countries. The latter figure included, however, nearly all of our wheat exports, since the United States imports very little Canadian wheat. Last year wheat constituted nearly one-third of total Canadian exports to overseas countries. Consequently, this year about 61 per cent of our total exports are going to the U.S.

Among Canada's principal agricultural export items during the first half of this year, there were both increases and decreases. Of 15 such items, the five most important, wheat, barley, flour, meat and oats, all showed decreases, except meat, which increased only 6 per cent, as compared with decreases of more than 30 per cent for wheat and barley. Flour exports decreased by 9 per cent, and oats under 7 per cent. For the 15 items, during the first half of 1953, the total value of exports amounted to \$452 million, while this year's corresponding total was \$326 million. Wheat accounted for \$271 million of the 1953 figure, as compared with \$166 million this year.

It would be unreal, after all, to expect the trade of any country to maintain a uniform size and pattern for any length of time. Between early 1945, when World War II ended, and 1954, many changes and adjustments have taken place. The agriculture of Europe's devastated countries has

been to a large extent rehabilitated, and imported foodstuffs are less needed than in the early postwar years. Likewise, the rehabilitation of industry in the United Kingdom and in Europe has made certain imported industrial equipment less necessary. The dollar position of Britain and many other countries, although greatly improved, is still not satisfactory, and gives rise to import restrictions designed to limit imports to the more essential products. Generally good crops throughout most of the world, of the basic food grains, coincided last year with a further accumulation of surplus wheat in North America. Also, Canada can scarcely avoid responses to fluctuations which may occur from time to time in the general level of prosperity in the United States.

What all this means is that the Western world is probably about as nearly back to normal in international trade as it is likely to get for some time to come. The cold war will continue. The convertibility of sterling is still some way from reality. The very high standards of living in Canada and the United States will permit us to compete, only if supported by a high level of efficiency. We may expect periods of slow, as well as of rapid progress, because the motive force of the economic life of nations operates as irregular expressions of social wants and energies. V

W. D. Albright

IN mid-September, at the Beaverlodge Experimental Station in the Peace River district, a monument and plaque, provided by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, were unveiled in honor of the life and work of the late Dr. W. D. Albright, who died in 1946. Much credit is due to the Grande Prairie District Old Timers' Association, who sponsored the occasion, and to E. C. Stacey, superintendent of the Experimental Station, who had been associated with W. D. Albright since 1924.

Like so many other residents of the Prairie Provinces, Don Albright was farm-reared in Ontario. He was one of the few anywhere in Canada at the turn of the century, who took courses in agriculture. After leaving the Ontario Agricultural College he became editor of *The Maritime Farmer*, then of *The Farmer's Advocate* of London, Ontario. After a few years, he followed his wife's family to the Country of the Peace. There, in 1913, he homesteaded, to become the first scientific agriculturist in all that great, undeveloped north country.

Not long before his death, *The Country Guide* called him "Apostle of the Peace"—and so he was. At the unveiling, Mr. Stacey spoke of him as journalist, patriot, and philosopher. He was these, also, and more. It was he, who, when there were no recommended farming methods for the area, created his own recommendations, by establishing a few experimental plots, with the encouragement of the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa. Four years later an experimental sub-station was created on his farm, of which he was appointed superintendent in 1919. In 1940, the government purchased the property, which became a full-fledged experimental station the next year.

W. D. Albright was a man of faith and vision. His point of inspiration was Saskatoon Mountain, which lies only a short distance from the Station; and to this spot he used to take his friends and neighbors and point to the million acres of farm land, which lay within sight. To him they justified faith in the future of agriculture, of the North, and of Canada.

He lived, dreamed, prayed, and worked for agriculture and the North. He was tireless in the expenditure of his talents and his energy. Not a trained scientist by present-day standards, he was, nevertheless, a very intelligent and shrewd observer, and scored several "firsts" in farm science. He could single out significant facts and observations. He was interested in productivity and gracious living on the land. It is, therefore, good to know that the monument will stand permanently on the Station grounds to symbolize, not alone official recognition of his work, but also the depth of his faith, the strength of his hope, and the durability of his achievements. V